

**FREE**  
FULL-COLOR  
COMIC INSIDE

**WARREN  
MAGAZINE**

# EERIE

No. 139

\$2.25  
WPS 37926

FEB. 1983



**A.E. VAN VOGT'S  
"VOYAGE OF  
THE SPACE  
BEAGLE!"**

*Drawn © 82*

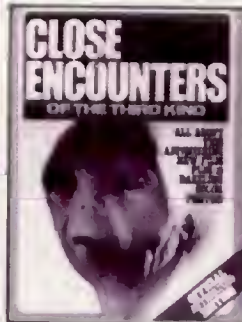


**A MURDEROUS ALIEN &  
DESPERATE EARTHLINGS  
MATCH WITS IN A DEADLY  
DEEP-SPACE BATTLE FOR SURVIVAL!**

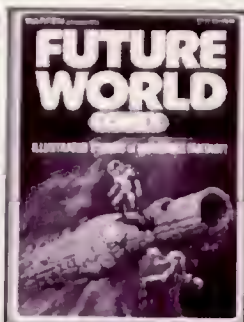




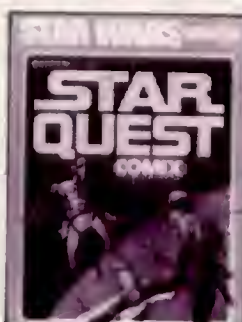
# WARREN SPECIAL ISSUE MAGAZINES



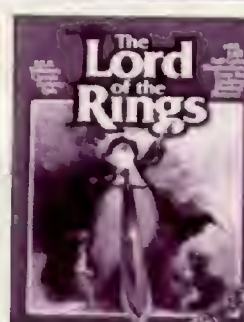
**CLOSE ENCOUNTERS** The magazine of the movie filled with facts, photos (color & B&W), features and affects! 8 1/2"x11" 72 pages! CE—\$2.50



**FUTURE WORLD COMIX** A fabulous 8 1/2"x11", 72 page comic book featuring 8 spectacular tales by Corben, Torrents, Maroto and others! FW—\$2.50



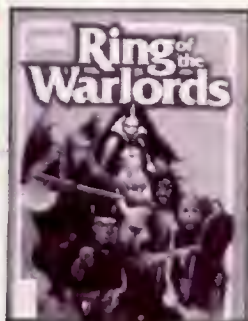
**STAR QUEST COMIX** Corben strikes twice along with Maroto and Neary! And there is a Star Wars article with lots of photos. 8 1/2"x11" SQ—\$2.50



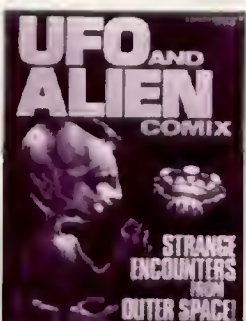
**LORD OF THE RINGS** Our exclusive magazine version of the movie masterpiece! A spectacular 48 pages, all in full color! 8 1/2"x11" LOR—\$3.00



**GALACTIC WARS COMIX** Wood, Williamson, Torrents and others in this 80 page 8 1/2"x11" comic with a 10 page article on Galactica! GWC—\$2.50



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**UFO AND ALIEN COMIX** Here are 7 special closer encounters with aliens of every stripe! An 8 1/2"x11", 72 page, black and white comic format! UFO—\$2.50



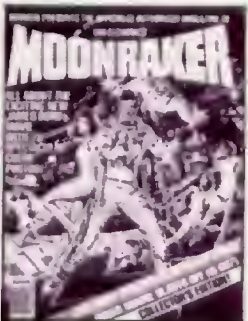
**ALIEN INVASION COMIX** 8 spectacular comic stories by the very best of Warren's writers & artists plus an article on ALIEN! 72 pgs! AIC—\$2.50



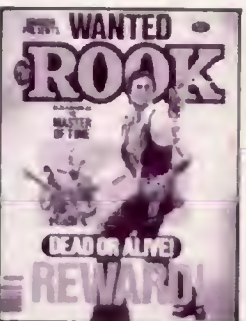
**MOVIE ALIENS ILLUSTRATED** Seven in-depth articles on classic alien movie invasions from the pages of Famous Monsters! 72 pgs! MAI—\$2.50



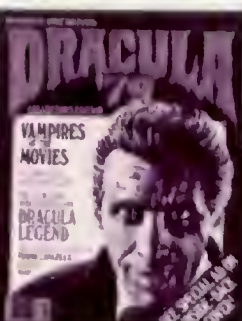
**METEOR, THE SPECTACULAR SF film in magazine format.** See how the SFX were done, read an exclusive behind the scenes interviews! MET—\$2.50



**MOONRAKER:** Bond is back! 23 spectacular color photos, exclusive interviews with cast and crew, hundreds of photos, a collector's edition! MNR—\$3.00



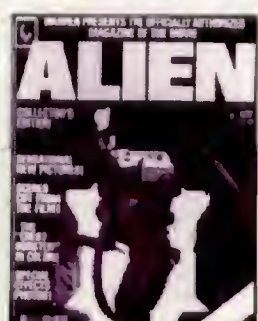
**ROOK:** Cover to cover Bermejo with outstanding writers Bill DuBay and Budd Lewis. Collect this extraordinary introductory Rook issue! RX1—\$4.00



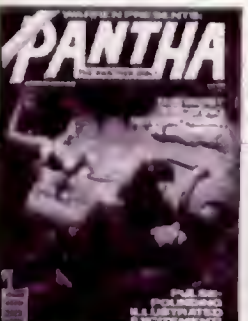
**DRACULA '79:** The Collector's edition of Vampirea form the movies and comics. Lugosi, Lee and Langella! A complete photo history! D79—\$2.50



**STRANGE STORIES of VAMPIRES** Blood suckers past, present, and future! With Duranona, Goodwin, Mayo, DuBay, Sanchez, Severin, and many more! VMPR—\$2.50



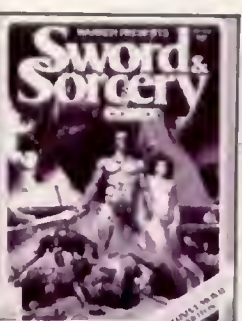
**ALIEN:** Interviews with Giger and others! Photos and analysis of the alien! Possible sequels examined! Chest-bursting in color! AL—\$2.50



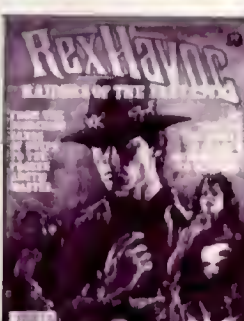
**PANTHA:** All Pantha, all Aureleon, all spectacular issue as the sleek huntress linds danger and romance at every turn PTH—\$2.50



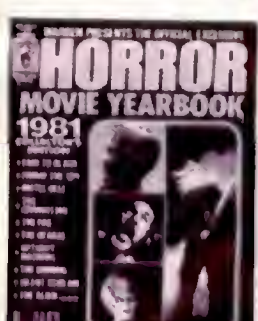
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**SWORD & SORCERY COMIX** Sorcerers, demons, dragons, and skull-bashing barbarians in blood and guts action and enchantment! SS—\$2.50



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# EERIE

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FEBRUARY 1983

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## NOXIOUS NEWSPAGE

4

Read it here first! (Where else would you read it?) Great scoops on three new series soon to debut in Warren magazines, "Jan & the Triad," "The Last Recess," & "Moonstone!" Plus a peek at our 100-page 25th Anniver-scary issue of FAMOUS MONSTERS, and a chance to tell us where we went wrong with CREEPY's Contents!



## SPACE BEAGLE

5

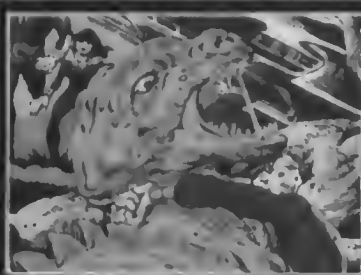
Aeons ago on the ancient world of Glor, Ixtl's race was destroyed in a cataclysmic solar explosion! Only Ixtl survived... sustaining himself by feeding off the wan light energy that permeated the galaxy! Now he encountered another form of life—beings who could provide him with means to exist! They were called...humans!



## SPACE BEAGLE II

15

The crew of the starship Space Beagle had discovered the creature drifting in the ebony darkness of deep space! They reached out with trembling hands to this awesome alien life form, to bring it on board! That was a mistake they would live to regret, for Ixtl was determined to make Guuls of the best specimens! The rest would have to die!



## INFINITY FORCE

31

Grant Lewis, Rick James and Cindy Barrie...the Infinity Force...discover what may be the greatest archaeological find in the history of Mankind—a strange metal alloy, more than a hundred million years old! Together they journey back in time to the Jurassic Age! But what they find there could change the earth...drastically!



## SPACE BEAGLE III

44

Grosvenor descended into the bowels of the ship and looked into the face of nightmare! The gunnery crew was burned beyond recognition! Ixtl had attacked the men, that was obvious! But more horrible still, along the corridor in the path of the deadly Neutron Projector, were the still-twitching bodies of twenty more of the ship's crew!

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# THE NOXIOUS NEWSPAGE

We've got nothing but good news this time around, gang! Two new series upcoming in **VAMPIRELLA**, all about FM's 25th Anniversary, plus an invitation to all our readers to write in and let us know what types of stories are preferred in **CREEPY** magazine! Read on! Read on!



## LOTS A LETTERS?

Reader response to the discontinuation of our letters page has been positively negative! So...in addition to the Noxious Newspaper, we pledge to bring back lettercols in **CREEPY**, **EERIE**, and **VAMPIRELLA**! Of course, you should know by now not to hold us to our word on this! And to open our mouth a little wider in order to accommodate more feet at a later date, we'll even go so far as to say that, any time we can make room, we'll run a double-page spread of letters! (Of course, that means you'll have to write us twice as often, but that's your problem!)

What would the world be like if it was run entirely by children? The possibilities are explored in a new **CREEPY** series written by Carlos Trillo entitled *The Last Recess*. In the first installment, a mysterious plague sweeps over the earth, killing off all the adults. Only the children survive! Perhaps inevitably, the youngsters who once were friends split into two distinct groups: those who want to live in peace, and the leather-jacketed, knife-wielding gangs who prefer to savage the land in the name of "fun." *The Last Recess* features some of the most dramatic artwork ever to grace the pages of a Warren publication. The new series debuts in **CREEPY** #146.

Moonstone and Jan and the Triad are two new series upcoming in **VAMPIRELLA**. In the former, a voluptuous barbarian woman journeys across vast wastelands in search of the answer to a fantastic riddle. Her quest leads her into some perilous predicaments...battling sub-humans, monstrous beasts, and her own self-doubts (sounds like a day on the unemployment line, doesn't it?). Rudy Nebres is illustrating the series, which is scripted by Bill DuBay.

Jan and the Triad is currently being written by former Warren editor David Allikas. In this new series, a young woman uncorks a strange bottle and out pop not one...not two...but three genies—each with its own identity, its own powers, and its own motives! Poor Jan never knows beforehand which genie is going to answer her summons, setting the scene for some wild fun. You'll see this one some time after the New Year...if we can get Pablo Marcos to stop partying long enough to draw it!



## THANKS, J.R.!

Wow, were we blown away when reader Jim Rhodes mailed us a **VAMPIRELLA** magazine index, complete with interior cover illustrations and exponential notations highlighting the most important developments in the magazine's 14 year history! And to think he did it without us even asking...! Jim's pamphlet (actually almost a magazine in itself) lists all the stories, along with artists' and writers' credits, from every issue of **VAMPI**, from numbers 1-109. It's an invaluable research guide, and we'd like to take the time to officially compliment Jim on his excellent work. Thanks, J.R! The **VAMPI** index sure will come in handy around here! (Gosh...now if we could only talk him into doing ones for **CREEPY**, **EERIE**, and 1994...!)



## THE GREAT DEBATE!

The **CREEPY** Controversy has raged for years: what kinds of stories really belong in **CREEPY**? Here's your chance to tell us what you think.

Should **CREEPY** run just short horror tales? Or is there room for science-fiction and fantasy? Should the stories be a fixed length? What about book-length epics? Would you like to see series introduced into **CREEPY**, or remain strictly in **EERIE**? Should we bring back "theme issues"?

Think about it. And after you've done think, send us your remarks. Address all suggestions to "The Great Debate," **CREEPY** Magazine, Warren Publishing Company, 145 East 32nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10016. We'll listen, we promise!



## FM FACELIFT!

Readers keep asking us, with Forry Ackerman no longer editing FM, what will the "new" **FAMOUS MONSTERS** be like? Actually, it won't be that "new." We thought Forry's FM was a great magazine...we've only added new spice to the brew! Beginning with FM 191, each issue will contain a major filmbook in the classic FM tradition, plus a revised News Department filled to overflowing with in-depth looks at upcoming fright flicks and behind-the-scenes stories. Then there's our Video Section, Science Page, and honest-to-badness Movie Review feature! On the lighter side, FM's "Great Moments in Cinema" spotlights some of the biggest fiascos ever committed to celluloid! All in all, FM is badder than ever! We'd tell more, but we'd rather you pick up FM 191 yourself and see the shocking surprises we have in store for our rabid readers!

An even bigger surprise awaits those sturdy souls who dare to pick up FM 192, our giant 25th Anniversary package! Twenty-five years ago (as of February 8, 1983) Jim Warren published the first issue of **FAMOUS MONSTERS**, and we've been at the forefront of the monster movement ever since. FM 192 will be a full 100 pages thick—shock-full of demonic delights and horrible highlights from 1958-1982! In addition to bringing you exciting insights into the greatest monsters and villains of the past 25 years, this special edition of **FAMOUS MONSTERS** will feature articles on special effects, Saturday matinees, subtlety and splatter in horror (with the "final word" on the subject by none other than the creator of the gore film, Herschell Gordon Lewis!), a brand new, updated FM Index and history of **FAMOUS MONSTERS**, and lots of other ghoulish goodies...including a surprise interview or two! It's all on sale this February. Watch (out) for it!

# COMING WARREN MAGAZINES

**FM #191:** Get the incisive, penetrating details about the behind-the-scenes action on the set of the new movie, *The Dark Crystal*. Also, the second part of our *Time Machine* film book, plus this year's fantasy & sci-fi television shows, great movie reviews, and all-new departments!  
**ON SALE DECEMBER 14!**

**VAMPI #112:** An issue you shouldn't miss—it's a double dose of the Drakulonion heroine! Rich Margopoulos teams up with Jose Gonzalez for *Walker of the Worlds* and combines with Gonzalo Mayo in *Feeding Frenzy*! Plus *The Fox*, *The Ransom*, and *Limbo* by Maroto!  
**ON SALE DECEMBER 21!**

**CREEPY #145:** A tale of the old West so gruesome your own blood will run cold! It's *Moral Blood* by McGregor & Sanchez! Plus Michael Fleisher and Delando Nino's *The Iceman Killeth* and *All of Them Must Die*! An issue we're sure will send chills up and down your spine!  
**ON SALE DECEMBER 21!**

**1994 #29:** Immorality runs rampant in our latest edition! *Farmed Out* by John Ellis Sech and Delando Nino! More Warhawks by Dubay and Laxamana! The return of Frank Thorne's Ghita! Plus Goddess by Tim Moriarty & Peter Hsu! You're going to love this issue to death!  
**ON SALE DECEMBER 21!**

A.E. VAN VOGT'S

# VOYAGE OF THE SPACE BEAGLE

HIS LIMBS TUCKED AND *UNMOVING*, IXTL TUMBLED  
IN THE BOUNDLESS NIGHT! ACROSS THE  
FATHOMLESS *IMMENSITY*, SWIRLING GALAXIES  
COLDLY *BECKONED* TO HIM! *LIFE* WAS OUT THERE  
IN THAT ENDLESS EXPANSE, *MOCKING* HIM!

HE *LIVED!* THAT WAS HIS  
PERSONAL *CATASTROPHE!*



AEONS AGO, ANCIENT *GLOR*,  
HOMEWORLD OF HIS FEARSOME RACE,  
WAS *CONSUMED* IN A CATACLYSMIC  
SOLAR *EXPLOSION!* IXTL  
SURVIVED...ONLY TO FIND HIS  
INDESTRUCTIBLE FORM *FLUNG*  
SPINNING OUT INTO THE  
INTERGALACTIC DEEPS!

HE CONTINUED TO *SURVIVE*  
FOR MILLENIA BY MAINTAINING  
HIS ALMOST *UNKILLABLE* BODY  
IN A DELIBERATELY *WEAKENED*  
STATE, FEEDING OFF THE WAN  
*LIGHT ENERGY* THAT  
PERMEATED THE VOID  
AROUND HIM!

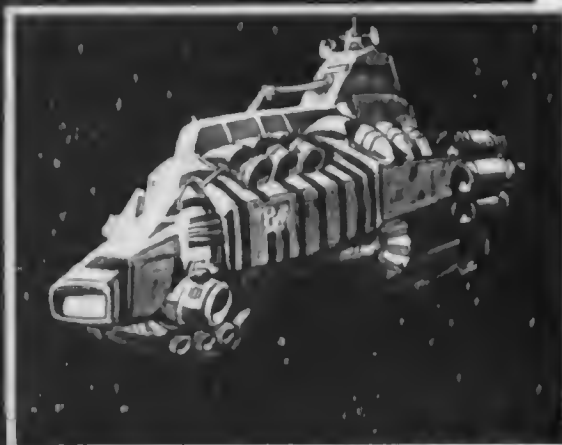
THE *ODDS* WERE IN THE  
*DECILLIONS* AGAINST IXTL  
ENCOUNTERING ANOTHER  
*PLANET* OR *STAR*...AND  
EVEN MORE *INFINITESIMAL*  
HE WOULD EVER LOCATE  
LIVING ORGANISMS TO BE  
HIS *GUULS!*

Author: RICH MARGOPOULOS/Illustrator: LUIS BERMEJO

IN AGES PAST, THE **ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD** SURROUNDING HIM HAD BEEN TRULY **VAST!** BUT NOW IT WAS **THIN, FEEBLE...ALMOST NON-EXISTENT!**

IT THEREFORE CAME AS A **SHOCK** TO HIS METABOLISM WHEN THE FIRST **STIMULUS** OF THE SHIP **BRUSHED** HIS SENSES...

...BRINGING WITH IT A LIVING **PAIN** TO HIS AWARENESS, LIKE A LONG-DISUSED MUSCLE BEING FORCED INTO SUDDEN **ACTION!**



IXTL'S EIGHT LIMBS CONVULSIVELY **JACKKNIFED** WITH BLIND, UNREASONING STRENGTH AS HE **MARSHALLED** HIS ENERGY FIELD AND CONCENTRATED IT INTO A TIGHTLY-HELD **BEAM!**

**FEEDING HUNGRILY, GREEDILY, HE DREW TREMENDOUS BOLTS OF INCALCULABLE POWER FROM THE MASSIVE ARMORED VESSEL!**

THE **GLORIAN** SIPHONED **MORE** THAN HE COULD ASSIMILATE, AND HAD TO **DEFLECT** MUCH OF IT FROM HIMSELF...DISCHARGING THE EXCESS ENERGY INTO THE SURROUNDING **EMPTY DARKNESS!**

LIKE SOME MONSTROUS **LEECH**, HE HAD **REACHED OUT** FOUR, FIVE, TEN LIGHT YEARS AND **DRAINED** THE BREACHED CRAFT OF ITS **STARDRIVE PROPULSION!**

AFTER HURRIEDLY **GORGING** HIMSELF, HE REALIZED THE FULL EXTENT OF HIS **OPPORTUNITY!**

IXTL **ADJUSTED** HIS **ATOMIC STRUCTURE** AND **RODE UPON** THE **BEAM**, FOLLOWING IT TO THE CRIPPLED **SPACE BEAGLE!**



WITHOUT WARNING, THE  
DAMAGED SHIP PROJECTED AN  
IMPENETRABLE ENERGY  
SCREEN, ONE THAT  
ENCAPSULATED AND SHIELDED  
ITS MAMMOTH GIRTH!

AUTONOMOUS  
RELAYS IN  
IXTL'S BODY REACTED  
IMMEDIATELY TO THE  
CONCENTRATED FORCE! IN  
NANOSECONDS, HE WAS  
SPEWING FREE ELECTRONS  
THAT SERVED TO ARREST HIS  
HEAD-LONG FLIGHT! IXTL BRAKED  
WITHIN METERS OF THE ALMOST  
INVISIBLE, RIPPLING BARRIER!

AND THERE,  
SEPARATED FROM  
THE REALIZATION  
OF HIS HOPES...HE  
GAZED  
RAVEN-  
OUSLY  
AT THE  
DEEP-  
SPACE  
CRAFT!

A HUGE HATCH ON THE POLISHED HULL  
YAWNED OPEN! THERE WAS A PAUSE...THEN  
A DOZEN TWO-LEGGED BEINGS IN BULKY  
EXO-VAC ARMOR CAME INTO VIEW, SOME  
GUIDING STRANGE HEAVY MACHINERY!

A THICK SECTION OF PLATE WAS  
QUICKLY GRAFTED INTO PLACE  
OVER THE RUPTURED HULL!

THE INCANDESCENT  
GLARE OF THE  
WELDERS SPUTTERED AND DIED!  
THEIR WORK DONE, THE MEN AND  
MACHINES MARCHED BACK TO THE  
GAPING AIRLOCK, AND  
DISAPPEARED INSIDE!





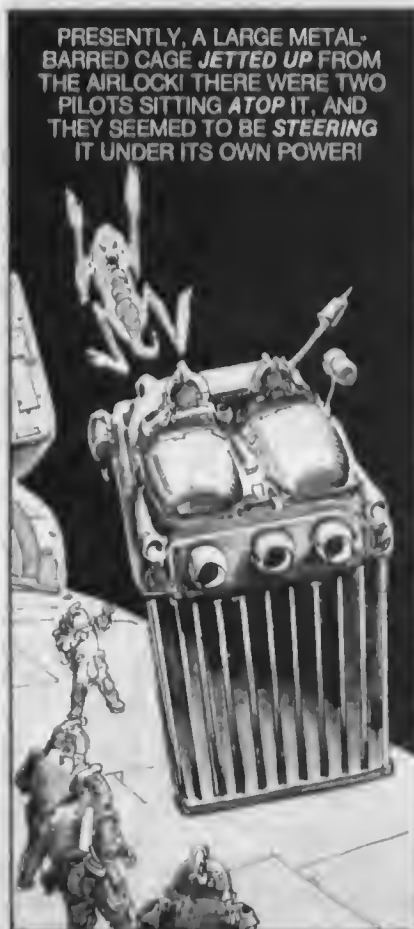
HIS ARMS STRETCHED OUT, AS IF HIS NEED ALONE COULD HOLD THE SHIP! HIS BODY ACHED WITH A DULL HURT, AND HIS MIND SPUN IN ANGUISHED DESPAIR!



BUT ONE LAST MAN TURNED IN THE AIRLOCK BEFORE SEALING THE HATCH SHUT AND SAW THE GLORIAN! HE STOPPED AS IF HE HAD BEEN STRUCK!



THE REST OF THE MEN RAPIDLY REEMERGED AND LOOKED AT ITXL! A DISCUSSION MUST HAVE FOLLOWED, FOR THEIR LIPS MOVED AT UNEVEN INTERVALS, FIRST ONE INDIVIDUAL'S, THEN ANOTHER'S!



PRESENTLY, A LARGE METAL-BARRED CAGE JETTED UP FROM THE AIRLOCK! THERE WERE TWO PILOTS SITTING ATOP IT, AND THEY SEEMED TO BE STEERING IT UNDER ITS OWN POWER!



ITXL, WITH GREAT JOY, GUESSED THAT HE WAS TO BE CAPTURED!



HOW IN THE NAME OF HELL CAN ANYTHING THRIVE IN HARD VAC?!

THE STRAINED VOICE OF ONE OF THE CREWMEN CRACKLED OVER THE COMMUNICATOR IN GROSVENOR'S HELMET! HE WAS NEXIALIST ABOARD THE SPACE BEAGLE, WHOSE MISSION WAS TO EXPLORE UNCHARTED REGIONS OF SPACE! BUT EVEN HE HAD NO ANSWER TO THE WORRISOME QUESTION!



AS THE SHIP'S  
NEXIALIST,  
IT WAS  
GROSVENOR'S  
FUNCTION TO BRIDGE  
AND JOIN  
THE OTHER  
SCIENCE  
DEPARTMENTS.  
HIS BROAD  
OVERVIEW OFTEN  
ENSURED  
THE SHIP'S  
SURVIVAL!

WHILE HE WATCHED,  
FASCINATED...  
MORE COMMENTS  
CAME FROM HIS  
SUIT-COM!



WE OUGHT TO  
TRAIN A MOBILE WEAP-UNIT  
ON ANYTHING LOOKS  
LIKE THAT...!

WHEN DIRECTOR MORTON, HEAD OF  
THE SPACE BEAGLE PROJECT,  
FINALLY SPOKE, HE HOPED THE  
AUTHORITY IN HIS VOICE WOULD  
ALLAY SOME OF THE FEAR!

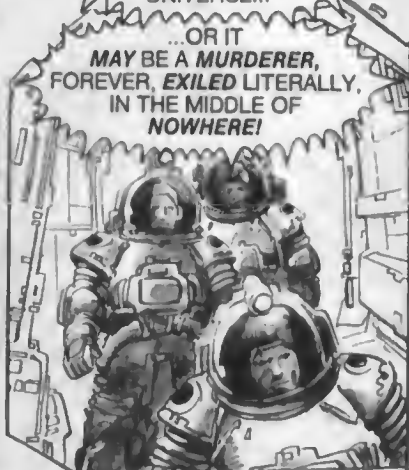
A REGULAR BLOODY  
DEVIL STRAIGHT FROM A NIGHT-  
MARE! SMITH, WHAT DO  
YOU THINK?



THE EXOBIOLOGIST, SMITH,  
OFFERED HIS TENTATIVE ANALYSIS!

IT IS HIGHLY EVOLVED!  
IT MAY BE A VENERABLE  
OLD SAGE, MEDITATING  
ON THE WHIMS OF THE  
UNIVERSE...

...OR IT  
MAY BE A MURDERER,  
FOREVER, EXILED LITERALLY,  
IN THE MIDDLE OF  
NOWHERE!

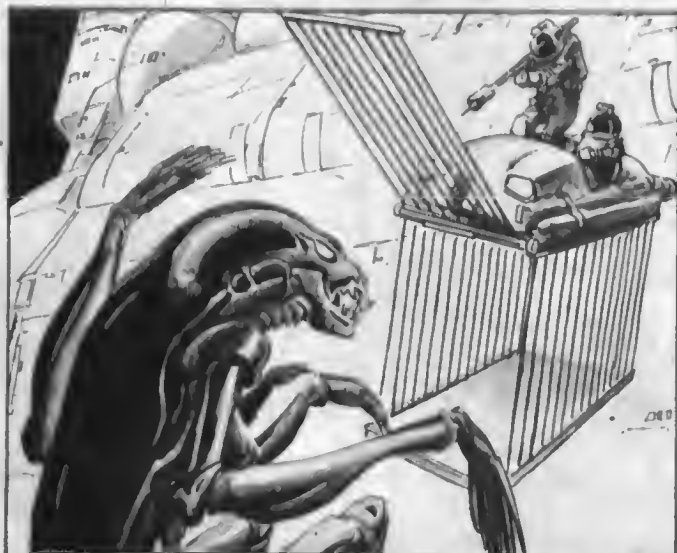


PRECAUTIONS ARE IN  
ORDER, DIRECTOR! LET'S AVOID  
KILLING AND BEING KILLED! OPEN  
THE SCREEN WIDE ENOUGH FOR THE  
CAGE TO SLIP THROUGH...

...AND  
WE'LL STUDY  
THE THING  
BEFORE BRINGING  
IT ABOARD FOR  
FURTHER  
TESTS!



NOW THAT,  
NEXIALIST, MAKES  
SENSE!



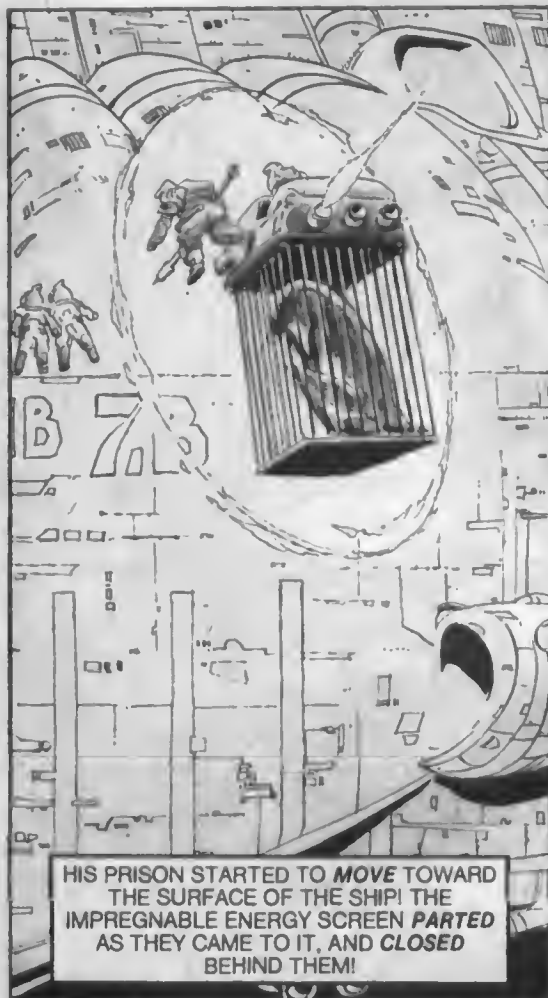
IXTL WAITED AS THE CAGE WAS DRIVEN TOWARDS HIM!  
THOUGH HE LONGED TO DO SO, HE KNEW HE MUST NOT  
MAKE A HOSTILE MOVE UNTIL HE WAS INSIDE THE  
STARCRAFT!

ONE OF THE  
OPERATORS HELD  
A WEAPON! IXTL  
SENSED THAT IT  
WOULD  
DISCHARGE A  
NEUTRON  
MISSILE!

IT MADE THE  
GLORIAN  
RESPECTFUL, BUT  
HE REALIZED ITS  
LIMITATIONS! IT  
COULD BE  
EMPLOYED  
AGAINST HIM OUT  
HERE...  
BUT THE TWO-  
LEGGERS WOULD  
NOT DARE  
UNLEASH SUCH  
VIOLENT  
RADIATION WITHIN  
THE CONFINES OF  
THEIR VALUABLE  
SHIP!



THE CAGE DOOR SOUNDLESSLY BANGED **SHUT** BEHIND HIM! IXTL GRABBED FOR THE NEAREST BAR, CAUGHT IT, AND **CLUNG** THERE! WILD **EXCITEMENT** COURSED THROUGH HIM! IT WOULD NOT BE **LONG NOW...**!



HIS PRISON STARTED TO **MOVE** TOWARD THE SURFACE OF THE SHIP! THE IMPREGNABLE ENERGY SCREEN **PARTED** AS THEY CAME TO IT, AND **CLOSED** BEHIND THEM!



**CLOSE UP**, THE MEN APPEARED **PUNY**! THEIR USE OF EXOSUITS PROVED THEIR INABILITY TO **ADAPT** TO RADICALLY DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENTS FROM THEIR OWN, WHICH MEANT THEY WERE ON A **LOW PLANE** OF PHYSICAL EVOLUTION!

AS THE CAGE **HOVERED** BY THE HASTILY ARRANGED **LAB**, IXTL KNEW HE HAD TO **ACT** AT ONCE!



IF THE HUMANS **SURMISED** THE **TRUE NATURE** OF HIS UNSTABLE **ATOMIC STRUCTURE**, THEY WOULD ATTEMPT TO **SLAY** HIM WITH THEIR NEUTRON WEAPONS!



HIS VISION **INTENSIFIED** AND BECAME SENSITIVE TO VERY SHORT FREQUENCIES! A **BRIGHT SPOT** CAUGHT HIS ATTENTION...WELL WITHIN HIS **GRASP**, THE **POWERCORE** OF A **VIBRO-GUN**!



ONE ARM WITH ITS EIGHT WIRELIKE FINGERS **LASHED OUT** WITH INDESCRIBABLE SWIFTNESS **THROUGH** THE METAL BARS, AND **SEIZED** THE **VIBROGUN** FROM THE CREWMAN'S **HOLSTER**!





LIKE LIVING LIGHTNING, IXTL SPRAYED THE BATTERY OF PROBE-SCANNERS, FOILING THEIR COMPLEX BUT DELICATE MECHANISMS!



THEN, IN ONE CONTINUOUS MOVEMENT, HE RELEASED THE POWERFUL HAND-WEAP...AND WITHDREW HIS EXTENDED ARM BACK THROUGH THE BARS OF HIS CELL! IT HAD ALL HAPPENED IN AN INSTANT!



IXTL SUDDENLY FOUND HIMSELF SINKING THROUGH THE FLOOR OF HIS HOVERING PRISON! HE BERATED HIMSELF FOR HIS THOUGHTLESSNESS AS HE REALIZED THE TRUTH...



WHAT WAS THAT? OUR SENSORS ARE OVER-LOADING!

UH, SORRY, DIRECTOR! THE VIBRO-GUN MUST'VE FALLEN FROM MY BELT AND ACCIDENTALLY FIRED!



FALLEN...! IN ZERO GEE? IMPOSSIBLE!

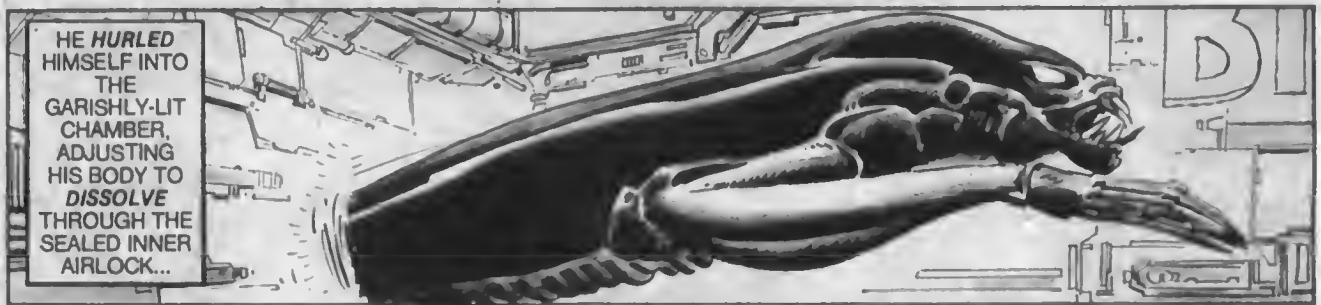
LOOK! LOOK AT THE CAGE!



...HE HAD NEGLIGENTLY FORGOTTEN TO RESTORE HIS SWIRLING ATOMS TO THEIR FORMER SOLIDNESS AFTER DESTROYING THE RING OF PROBES!



ITXL, AN ELONGATED STREAK OF SCARLET, DARTED ACROSS THE EXPANSE OF POLISHED HULL TO THE OPEN HATCH!



HE HURLED HIMSELF INTO THE GARISHLY-LIT CHAMBER, ADJUSTING HIS BODY TO DISSOLVE THROUGH THE SEALED INNER AIRLOCK...



...AND FOUND HIMSELF AT ONE END OF A LONG CORRIDOR! ALL ABOUT HIM, THE SHIP THROBBED WITH POWER, WITH LIFE!



HIS OPPONENTS DID NOT YET KNOW THE DEADLINESS OF HIS INTENT! AND BY THE TIME THEY DID, IT WOULD ALREADY BE FAR TOO LATE!

ONE FACT STOOD OUT AS HE STALKED PURPOSEFULLY FORWARD! IN THE IMMINENT STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL OF THE STARVESSEL, HE WOULD HAVE AN IMPORTANT ADVANTAGE...ASIDE FROM HIS INDIVIDUAL SUPERIORITY!



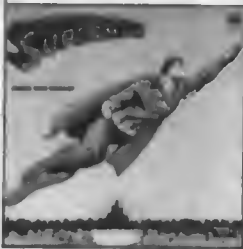
# RECORD EXTRAVAGANZA

## LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE



**LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE:** The original radio broadcasts of "The Oyster Diving" and "Black Jacket" episodes that made Annie a star! #2327—\$6.95

## SUPERMAN



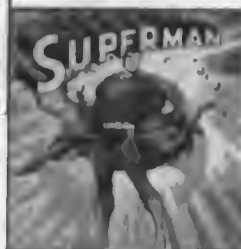
**SUPERMAN:** Up, up and away! Here the Man of Steel's complete story, from Krypton to the Daily Planet! Buy it: it's the American way! #2328—\$6.95

## SUPERMAN



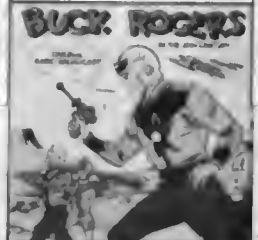
**SUPERMAN:** Listen as the Man of Steel goes up against his most dangerous adversary, the evil Lex Luthor! Who will be the victor? #2397—\$2.98

## SUPERMAN



**SUPERMAN:** This album contains four "super" adventure tales starring everybody's favorite hero, the mighty Man of Steel! #2396—\$2.98

## BUCK ROGERS



**BUCK ROGERS:** Listen to plenty of thrills on this original radio broadcast of Buck and his gal Wilma fighting crime in the 25th Century! #2329—\$6.95

## MALTESE FALCON



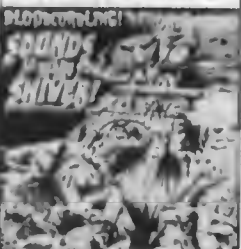
**MALTESE FALCON:** One of the most famous detective dramas ever! Hear Bogie at his best, solving the case of the jinxed statuette! #2334—\$6.95

## COMIC BOOK HEROES



**COMIC BOOK HEROES:** They're all here, from Tracy to the Man of Steel! A rare comedy record you're sure to enjoy! A must! #2337—\$5.98

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**SOUNDS TO MAKE YOU SHIVER:** A record perfect for Halloween parties! Includes howling wind, rattling chains, & much more! #2341—\$3.98

## FLASH GORDON



**FLASH GORDON:** The most fabulous space hero of all-time in an original broadcast filled with suspense and adventure for all! #2344—\$6.98

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**MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN:** An original radio broadcast about one of the wily magician's greatest adventures! It's pure magic! #2345—\$6.98

## WHEN RADIO WAS KING



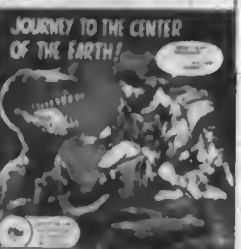
**WHEN RADIO WAS KING:** Collection of early radio hits includes "The Traveling Man" (#2349) and "Terry & the Pirates" (#2350). Each \$4.98!

## 20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA



**20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA:** Voyage with Captain Nemo and the crew of the Nautilus in Jules Verne's timeless tale! #2357—\$2.98

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**JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH:** Take a fantastic trip to the Earth's core with this record! A tale nobody forgets! #2360—\$2.98

## SAM SPADE



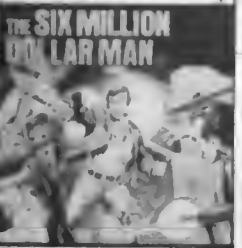
**SAM SPADE:** Howard Duff stars as Dashiell Hammett's great investigator in these exciting, original broadcasts. The chase is on! #2364—\$6.98

## SPACE:1999



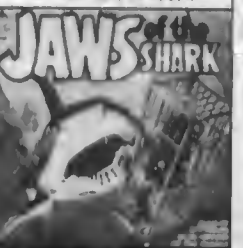
**SPACE 1999:** Scripted from the TV show, 3 great stories enliven one super L.P. All sci-fi fans must get this record for themselves! #2379—\$2.98

## SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN



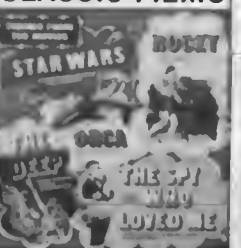
**SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN:** It's everyone's favorite bionic hunk, Major Steve Austin, in another of his exciting adventure stories! #2380—\$2.98

## JAWS OF THE SHARK



**JAWS:** The Great White lives in these 3 pulse-pounding tales of young scientists in combat with the most famous predators of the deep! #2384—\$2.98

## THEMES FROM CLASSIC FILMS



**THEMES FROM CLASSIC FILMS:** Some of Hollywood's greatest tunes are on this album! For movie fans who love good music! #2392—\$2.98

## I ROBOT



**I, ROBOT:** Something to think about! Alan Parson's songs warn that man's rule will end in futuristic "human" robots! Mind-boggling! #2395—\$7.98

## THE STORY OF STAR WARS



**STORY OF STAR WARS:** A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away! You'll hear it all on this stereo record which includes a photo book! #2389—\$9.95

# STAR WARS™ MICRO COLLECTION

## BESPIN CONTROL ROOM



The duel continues! Four die cast metal figures of Luke and Darth Vader in action poses! Features 'break away' windows with remote lever and special platform! Connects to other Bespin playsets. #26345—\$11.90

## BESPIN GANTRY



Site of Luke's famed lightsaber duel with Vader! Remote operated gantry door opens and leads to rotating platform! Includes four unique die cast figures! Also connects to other Bespin playsets. #26346—\$11.90

## BESPIN FREEZE CHAMBER



A special platform lowers Han Solo into chamber—then turn the action lever to raise a 'frozen' figure out with the lifting claw! Movable ramp, stairs, elevator, escape hatch! Eight metal figures! #26347—\$29.90

**Special Offer! All three interlocking Bespin World playsets for only \$49.95!**

## HOTH WAMPA CAVE



Recreates Luke's capture by Hoth Wampa, the snow monster, plus Han and Chewbacca destroying the probot! Contains an 'action launcher' and 4 metal figures! Connects to other Hoth playsets. #26349—\$11.90

## HOTH GENERATOR ATTACK



Features exploding generator and Scout Walker that stands unassisted and also explodes by remote control when positioned on snow base! Six die cast metal figures! Connects to all Hoth playsets. #26350—\$19.90

## HOTH ION CANNON



Operated by remote lever and clicks to simulate firing! Includes observation tower with blast doors, a command post with two computer terminals and a battle damage feature! Eight metal figures! #26351—\$29.90

**Special Offer! All three interlocking Hoth World playsets for only \$55.95!**

## DEATH STAR ESCAPE



Features exploding cannon that clicks and holds a stormtrooper, manually operated bridge, removable elevator assembly and even a rope to swing Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia Organa from one side to the other! Includes six unique die cast metal figures set in action poses! Interlocks with the Death Star Compactor playset. #26353—\$19.90

## DEATH STAR COMPACTOR



Manually operated trash compactor with escape hatch that opens at the last second, remote operated blast door that springs shut, elevator, plus blast hatch to let figures jump into the trash compactor! Contains 8 die cast figures including Han Solo and Luke Skywalker in Stormtrooper outfits! Connects to Death Star Escape playset. #26354—\$25.90

## DEATH STAR ESCAPE & COMPACTOR



**Special Offer!**  
**Both Death Star**  
**interlocking sets**  
**for only \$39.95!**



GROSVENOR STOOD AMONG THE REST OF THE ASSEMBLED CREW ON THE *SPACE BEAGLE'S* BRIDGE! CAPTAIN LEETH, COMMANDER OF THE STAR-VESSEL, AND SCIENCE DIRECTOR MORTON APPEARED EQUALLY *TENSE!* A BELL SOON CHIMED INDICATING *SILENCE...* AND THE CAPTAIN ADDRESSED HIS MEN!

GENTLEMEN, YOU'RE PROBABLY *NOT* WONDERING WHY I'VE CALLED YOU HERE! AS YOU NO DOUBT *KNOW*, THERE'S A *MONSTER* ABOARD THE SHIP! THIS IS WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE! I TRUST YOU'LL RECOGNIZE IT IMMEDIATELY!

FROM THIS MOMENT ON, EVERYONE SHALL GO *ARMED* AND TRAVEL ONLY IN PAIRS OR GROUPS! *SHOULD* ANYONE CONTACT THIS LURKING *CREATURE*, DEFEND YOURSELF *WITHOUT HESITATION!* GET IT BEFORE IT GETS YOU!

A.E. VAN VOGT'S  
**VOYAGE OF THE  
SPACE BEAGLE**  
PART TWO

THAT'S RIGHT!  
TRY TO TAKE IT WITH  
YOU DON'T ALLOW YOUR-  
SELF TO SUFFER OR  
DIE IN VAIN!

NOW, I'D LIKE  
TO SOLICIT MORE  
OPINIONS ON EXACTLY  
WHAT IT IS WE'RE  
UP AGAINST!



ONE BY ONE, THE SCI-DEPARTMENT HEADS WERE  
CALLED UPON TO *SPEAK*...SIEDEL, THE *EXOPSYCH*  
...SMITH, THE *EXOBIOLOGIST*...AND KORITA, THE  
*HISTECHI*



WHAT THEY HAD TO OFFER WAS *USEFUL*...BUT  
STILL RELEGATED TO THE FIELD OF *SPECULATION*  
AND *CONJECTURE*!

UNTIL FINALLY, IT WAS THE *NEXIALIST*'S TURN! GROSVENOR SHARED HIS BROAD, WHOLISTIC VIEWPOINT!



AS EVERYONE  
KNOWS, OUR STAR-  
DRIVE WAS DRAINED OF  
POWER BEFORE WE MADE  
CONTACT WITH THE  
ALIEN FLOATING  
IN SPACE!

I BELIEVE  
THERE MUST BE  
SOME *CONNECTION*  
BETWEEN THE TWO  
EVENTS!



...BUT HARDLY  
*INVINCIBLE*! AS  
TO WAYS TO KILL THE  
THING, I'D THINK  
THAT-I

SORRY FOR THE  
*INTERRUPTION*,  
CAPTAIN!

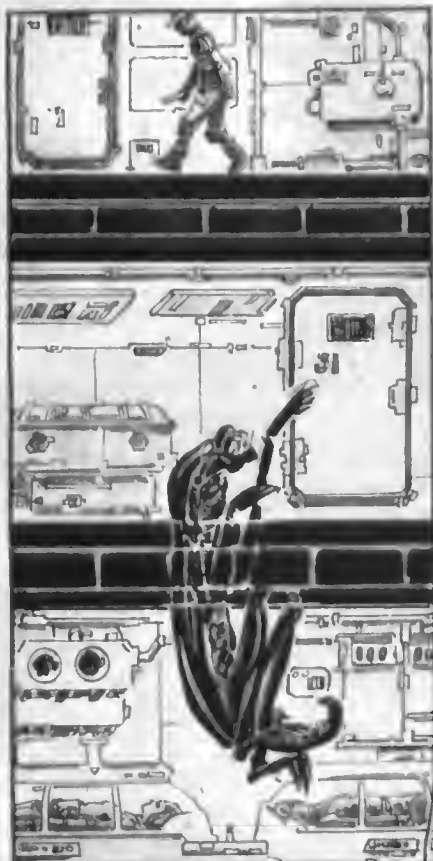
EH?  
WHAT IS IT,  
ENGINEER  
PENNONS?



"AFTER WE CAPTURED IT, IT CARELESSLY SLIPPED OUT  
OF OUR CAGE...PASSING THROUGH THE METAL...A  
MISTAKE ON ITS PART, I BELIEVE...THEN DOVE INTO AN  
OPEN AIRLOCK!"

"SO, WHAT HAVE WE GOT HERE? IT'S A SOLID ENERGY  
CREATURE THAT *FEEDS* ON POWER AND MAKES  
*MISTAKES*! IT'S *LETHAL*, TO BE SURE..."





TO IXTL, THE SHOCK WAS DEVASTATING! ONE MOMENT HE WAS THINKING COMPLACENTLY OF THE HOLD'S ISOLATED COMPARTMENTS WHERE HE WOULD SECURE HIS GUILDS...



...THE NEXT, HE WAS CAUGHT AMID THE CORUSCATING FURY OF AN ENERGY SCREEN!

HIS MIND WENT BLANK WITH PAIN! CLOUDS OF ELECTRONS BROKE FREE INSIDE HIM! THEY FLASHED FROM SYSTEM TO SYSTEM, SEEKING UNION...BUT, AT THE SAME TIME, WERE VIOLENTLY REPELLED BY ATOM ORBITS FIGHTING TO REMAIN STABLE!



DURING THE PROLONGED AGONY, THE INTRICATELY BALANCED FLEXIBILITY OF HIS BODY NEARLY DISINTEGRATED INTO WHIRLING CHAOS AND NOTHINGNESS!

QUICKLY, HIS FORM **ADJUSTED**, EACH NEW-BUILT STRUCTURE CARRYING THE INTOLERABLE **LOAD** FOR A FRACTION OF A MICROSECOND BEFORE **COLLAPSING...**



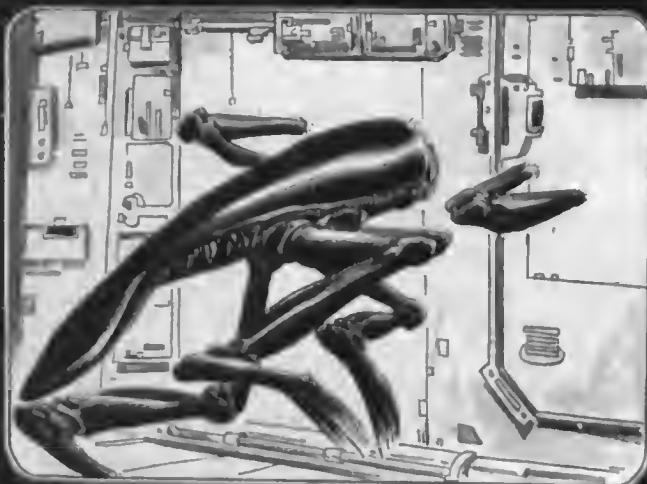
...ONLY TO ARISE **PHOENIX-LIKE, RENEWED** AGAIN AND AGAIN WITH EACH **PASSING INSTANT!**

PARTIALLY SUSTAINING HIMSELF, HE **MARSHALLED** HIS **STRENGTH** AND **WRENCHED** HIMSELF FREE FROM THE WALL'S **RIPPING GRIP...AND WAS SAFE!**



**IXTL'S EYES** WERE GLARING POOLS OF **FIRE** AS HE REALIZED HIS **OPPORTUNITY!** HE WOULD **SNARE** ONE OF THE **BIPEDS** AND EXAMINE HIM FOR **GUUL** PROPERTIES!

THE DEFENSIVE **SHIELD** OF **FORCE** WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE CONNECTED TO AN **ALARM SYSTEM!** SOON, **MEN** WOULD BE BEARING DOWN ON HIM!



THERE WAS NO TIME TO **WASTE!** HE **DARTED** INTO AN **UNENERGIZED** COMPARTMENT PARALLEL TO THE **MAIN CORRIDOR!**



FROM HIS VANTAGE POINT, HIS RADIATION-SENSITIVE EYES **TRACKED** THE **BLURRED** IMAGES OF HIS **PREY** AS THEY **RACED BY!** ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR, FIVE!

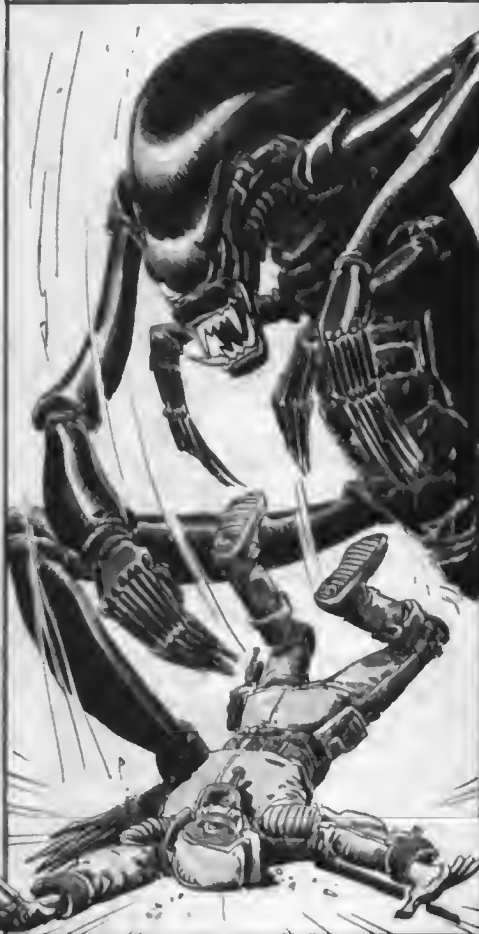
THE FIFTH AND LAST MAN WAS HIS! LIKE A *WRAITH*, IXTL GLIDED BACK OUT INTO THE CORRIDOR...



...AND *POUNCED!*



THE MAN *SQUIRMED* AND *JERKED* AND *CONTORTED* HIMSELF IN A MAD EFFORT TO GET *FREE*...AND THEN WAS *OVERWHELMED*, *FLUNG* TO THE FLOOR WITH *SMASHING FORCE!*



THE BIPED'S MOUTH *OPENED* AND *SHUT* IN AN UNEVEN SERIES OF MOVEMENTS! IT WAS NOT HARD TO SURMISE THAT THE VICTIM WAS *SUMMONING HELP* FROM HIS OWN KIND!

WITH A *SNARL*, ONE HAND *ARCHED* DOWN AND *SHATTERED* THE JAW, *DISLOCATING* IT!



THE MAMMAL WAS STILL *ALIVE* AND *CONSCIOUS*, BUT RENDERED INCAPABLE OF *CRYING ALOUD* FOR ASSISTANCE!



WITHOUT *HESITATION*, IXTL *EAGERLY PLUNGED* TWO HANDS *INTO* HIM!



EYES GAPING, THE PETRIFIED TERRAN WATCHED AS THE LONG LIMBS VANISHED INTO HIS SHIRT AND STIRRED AROUND WITHIN!



IN HIS ANXIETY, IXTL MADE THE MISTAKE OF SPEEDING HIS EXAMINATION! HIS PROBING FINGERS BRIEFLY ATTAINED A STATE OF SEMI-SOLIDITY!



IN THAT MOMENT, THEY BRUSHED THROUGH THE BEATING HEART!

THE HUMAN SPECIMEN HEAVED CONVULSIVELY, SHUDDERED, AND...DIED!

HASTILY, THE ALIEN'S DIGITS CONTINUED TO EXAMINE THE WARM STOMACH AND INTESTINES!



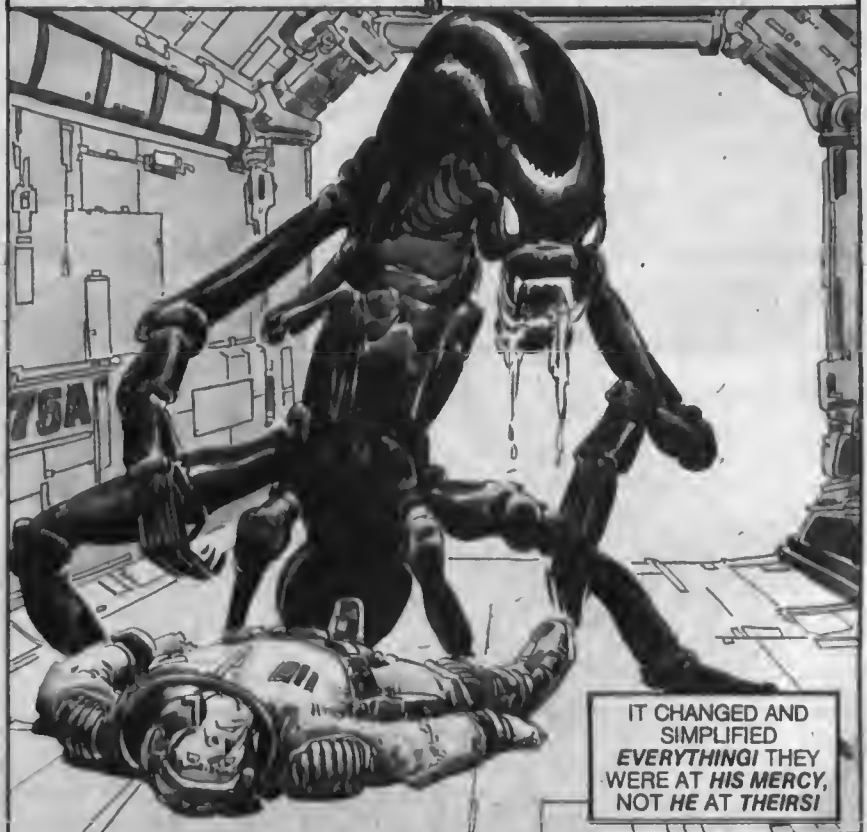
A WARNING DRUMMED INSIDE HIM...HURRY, HURRY! THE GLORIAN'S FOUR PEDAL EXTREMITIES REGISTERED THE VIBRATIONS OF APPROACHING FOOTSTEPS!

THEY CAME FROM ONE DIRECTION ONLY, BUT THEY CAME SWIFTLY!



IXTL DREW BACK IN A RAGE OF SELF-CRITICISM! HERE WAS EXACTLY WHAT HE WANTED, WHAT HE NEEDED...AND HE HAD INADVERTENTLY DESTROYED IT!

HE STRAIGHTENED SLOWLY, HIS ANGER AND DISMAY DIMINISHING! FOR HE HAD NOT ANTICIPATED THAT THESE INTELLIGENT BEINGS COULD SO EASILY DIE!



IT CHANGED AND SIMPLIFIED EVERYTHING! THEY WERE AT HIS MERCY, NOT HE AT THEIRS!

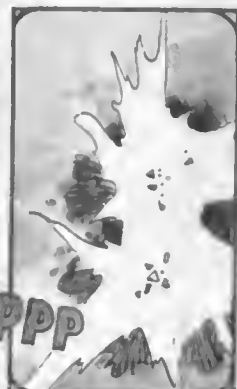
TWO MEN WITH DRAWN **VIBRO-GUNS** WHIPPED **AROUND** A CORNER AND SLID TO A **HALT** AT THE SIGHT OF THE **HELLISH** APPARITION THAT **SNARLED** AT THEM ACROSS THE BODY OF THEIR **FALLEN** COMPANION!



WHILE THEY WERE IN **SHOCK**, IXTL STEPPED INTO THE NEAREST **WALL**! ONE INSTANT HE WAS A **BLUR** OF **SCARLET** IN THAT HALLWAY...

...A SECOND LATER, HE WAS **GONE** AS IF HE HAD **NEVER BEEN!**

THE ALIEN **FELT** THE TRANSMITTED **VIBRATIONS** FROM THE WEAPONS AS THE TWIN **VIBRO-BEAMS** FUTILELY **TORE** AT THE BULKHEAD HE **HID** BEHIND!

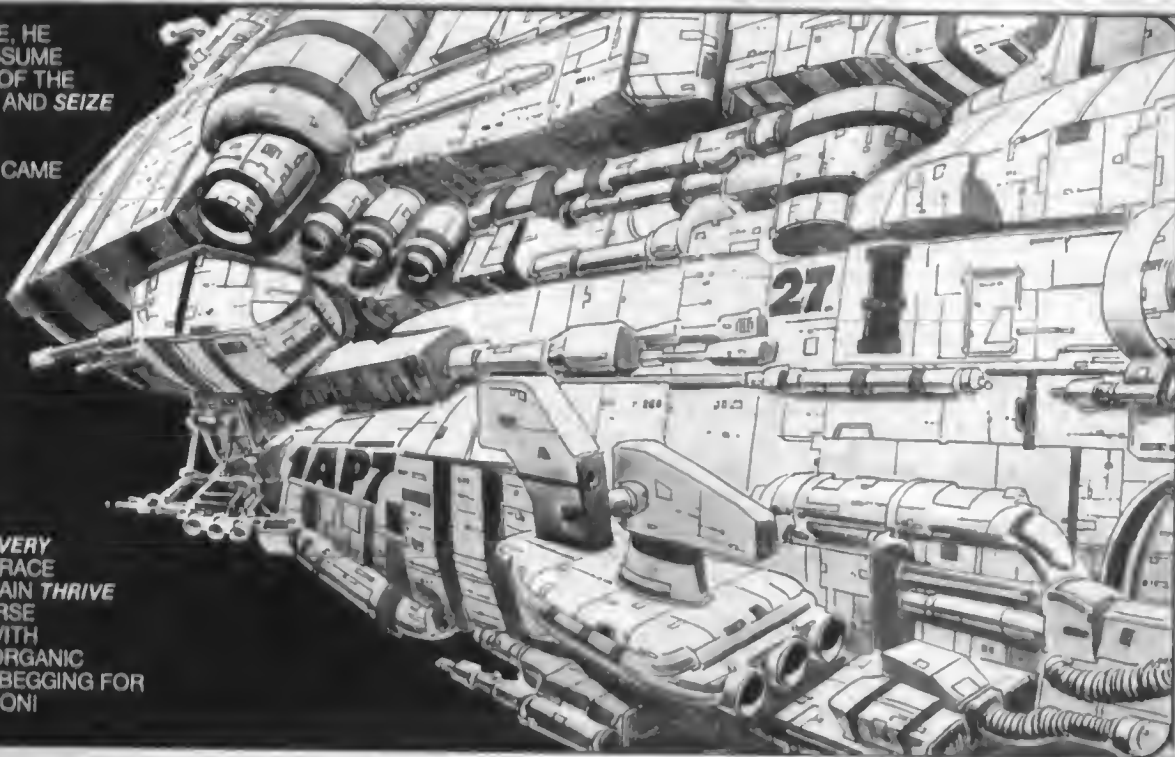


HIS **PLAN** WAS QUITE **CLEAR** NOW! HE WOULD **CAPTURE** HALF A DOZEN **MANLINGS** AND MAKE **GULFS** OF THEM!

HE WOULD THEN **KILL** ALL THE **OTHERS!**

THAT DONE, HE WOULD ASSUME **CONTROL** OF THE VAST SHIP AND SEIZE THE FIRST INHABITED PLANET IT CAME UPON!

SOON, SO **VERY** SOON, HIS RACE WOULD AGAIN **THRIVE** IN A UNIVERSE **TEEMING** WITH **INFERIOR** ORGANIC **LIFE**...LIFE BEGGING FOR **SUBJUGATION!**



GROSVENOR WATCHED, ALONG WITH SEVERAL OTHERS, / AS THE VESSEL'S STAR-SURGEON BENT OVER THE RICTUS-GRINNING CORPSE!

THE NEXIALIST DRANK IN EVERY WORD, INTERRELATING AND SYNTHESIZING IT WITH EVERY OTHER SCRAP OF DATA TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW!





THE **NEXIALIST** QUICKLY JUMPED INTO THE CONVERSATION!

BUT IT **BLUNDERS**, IT  
MAKES **MISTAKES**! OTHERWISE,  
IT WOULDN'T HAVE **STUMBLED**  
INTO THE DORM'S **SCREEN-**  
**SHIELD**! IT'S NOT **INFALLIBLE**,  
SO WE'VE GOT TO—



BUT THE MEN WERE **NOT LISTENING** TO GROSVENORI IN  
THE SPAN OF A SINGLE  
BREATH HE **SENSED**,  
RATHER THAN  
SAW, **WHY!**



FULL INTO THE CENTER  
OF THE CORRIDOR  
STEPPED **IXTL!**

HE **STOOD** THERE, A FORBIDDING **SPECTER**! HIS EYES WERE **BRIGHT** AND **ALERT**, THOUGH  
HE WAS NO LONGER **ALARMED**! HE KNEW, **CONTEMPTUOUSLY**, THAT THERE WAS **NOTHING**  
THESE **FEEBLE BEINGS** COULD DO TO **THWART** HIS **WILL!**



HE HAD COME FOR HIS  
FIRST **GUUL!**

IT WAS CAPTAIN LEETH WHO FINALLY BROKE THE SILENCE! DELIBERATELY, HE HELD HIS HAND AWAY FROM HIS HOLSTERED **VIBROGUN!**

**PENNONS!** DON'T TRY TO DRAW ON HIM! HE CAN MOVE LIKE A FLASH!

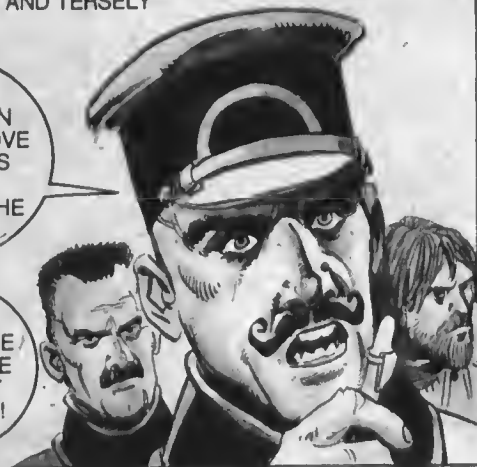
BESIDES, HE WOULDN'T BE HERE IF HE THOUGHT WE COULD **BLAST** HIM!



REPRESSING AN INSTINCTIVE URGE TO **OPEN FIRE** ON THE THING HIMSELF, CAPTAIN LEETH PRODUCED AN **OMNI-MIKE** FROM HIS UNIFORM AND TERSELY SPOKE INTO IT!

**ATTENTION, ALL SECURITY TEAMS!** POSITION YOURSELVES ABOVE AND BELOW THIS LEVEL...AND AT BOTH ENDS OF THE PASSAGEWAY!

BRING UP THE HEAVIEST **PORTABLES** IN THE ARMORY! SET THE BEAM-SWEEP AT **NARROW FOCUS!** **MOVE!**



ON THE **BRIDGE** OF THE SPACE BEAGLE, LT. CLAY **ACKNOWLEDGED** THE CAPTAIN'S ORDERS!



AYE, AYE, SIR! SECURITY TEAMS ARE ON THEIR WAY! BUT WE NEED **TIME!** TRY TO STALL THAT THING...IF YOU CAN!

MEANWHILE, **VON GROSSEN**, THE **ASTROPHYSICIST**, REMOVED A SLATE FROM ONE POCKET AND RAPIDLY BEGAN **SKETCHING!**

I CAN KEEP IT **OCCUPIED!** WAIT TILL IT SEES **THIS!**



GROSVENOR WAS FILLED WITH **MISGIVINGS** AS HE WATCHED THE **BALDING** SCIENTIST **BOLDLY** STEP **FORWARD** AND OFFER THE **DRAWING** TO THE **GLOWING** GOLEM!

**VON GROSSEN!**

WE NEED **TIME**, AND I'M **BUYING** US THAT!



THE CREATURE AT FIRST *HESITATED*, THEN ACCEPTED IT! HE TOOK *ONE GLANCE* AT THE NOTEPAD, AND A FURIOUS *SNARL* SPLIT HIS HIDEOUS FEATURES!



WHAT THE HELL DID YOU SHOW HIM?

IT'S HIS WEAKNESS, THE ONLY WAY WE CAN DEFEAT HIM! I KNEW IT WOULD—!

DIRECTOR MORTON REALIZED WHAT WAS ABOUT TO HAPPEN! HE SPRANG FORWARD, INTERPOSING HIMSELF BETWEEN THE STARTLED SCIENTIST AND THE GLARING ALIEN!



YOU FOOL! ALL YOU DID WAS SIGN YOUR OWN DEATH WARRANT!

MORTON, RECOVERING EVEN AS HE FELL, REACHED FOR HIS WEAPON...AND THEN FROZE WITH IT IN HIS HAND! THE NEXIALIST, GETTING TO HIS FEET NEXT TO HIM, IMMEDIATELY KNEW WHY!



A HAND WITH EIGHT, WIRE-THIN FINGERS SUDDENLY LASHED OUT, KNOCKING THE DIRECTOR BACKWARDS INTO THE OTHERS!



THE ALIEN HAD SEIZED VON GROSSEN, HOLDING HIM IN TWO SCARLET-COLORED ARMS!



THE TERRIFIED MAN SQUIRMED AND TWISTED IN VAIN! IXTL'S HARD-MUSCLED EMBRACE WAS LIKE THAT OF IRON!

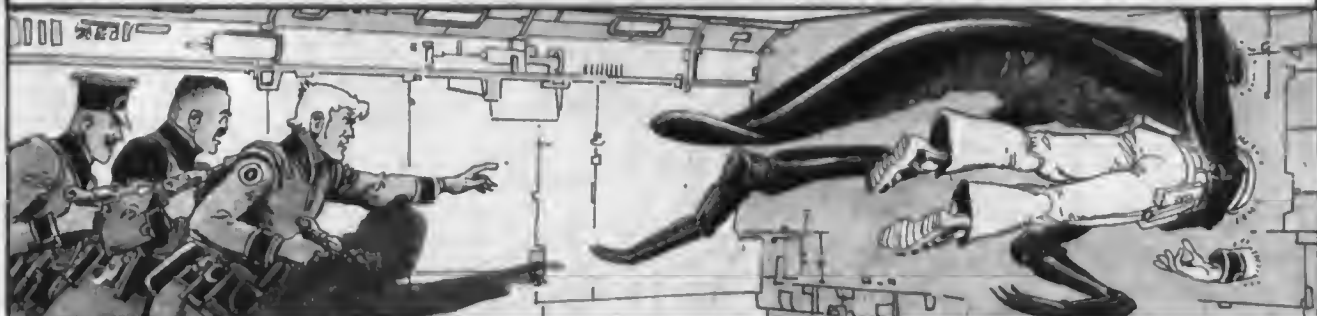


BUT IT WAS  
UTTERLY  
IMPOSSIBLE FOR  
THE MEN TO  
FIRE WITHOUT  
HITTING VON  
GROSSENI  
GROSSENI  
DARED NOT  
WASTE ANOTHER  
SECOND! IT WAS  
IMPERATIVE THAT  
HE DISCOVER  
THE CREATURE'S  
VULNERABLE  
POINT!



FOR  
GOD'S SAKE,  
VON GROSSENI!  
WHAT'S ITS  
SECRET? HOW  
CAN WE DEFEAT  
IT?

THE ASTROPHYSICIST TURNED HIS HEAD! THAT WAS ALL HE HAD TIME FOR! THE GLORIAN TOOK A RUNNING DIVE...



...AND VANISHED INTO A WALL!

FOR AN INSTANT, IT SEEMED TO THE NEXIALIST  
THAT HIS VISION HAD PLAYED A TRICK ON HIM!



BUT THERE WAS ONLY THE SMOOTH, GLEAMING WALL TO  
MARK THE SPOT OF THE ALIEN'S ESCAPE!



THE PERSPIRING MEN, CURSING SILENTLY TO THEMSELVES,  
FINGERED THEIR DRAWN PISTOLS HELPLESSLY!



IF HE CAN ADJUST  
OUR ATOMIC STRUCTURE  
AND TAKE US THROUGH  
SOLID MATTER, WE CAN'T  
BEAT HIM! WE'RE LOST  
...DOOMED!

PERHAPS, CREWMANI  
BUT WHILE WE'RE ALIVE,  
WE CAN PUT UP ONE HELL  
OF A FIGHT!

SECURI-  
TY! WHAT  
IS YOUR  
STATUS?

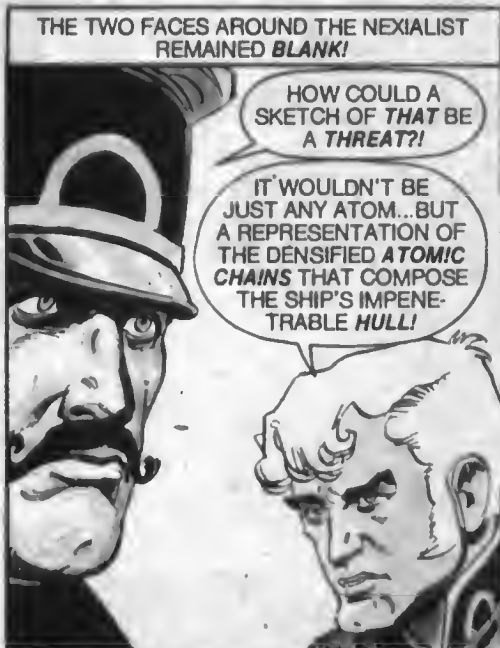
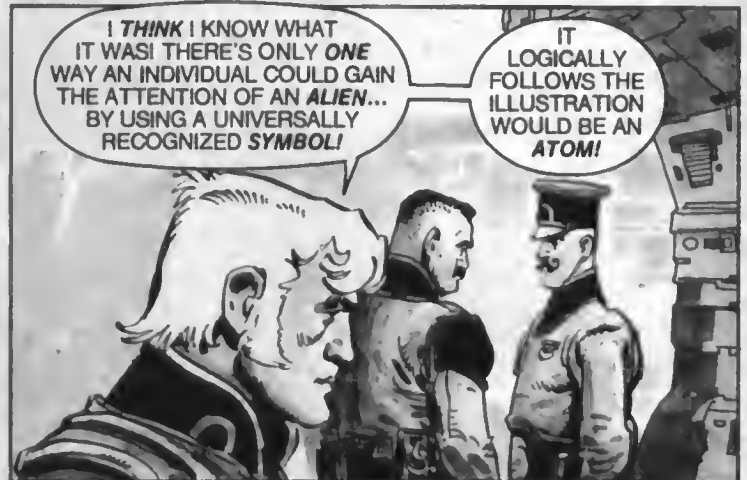


SITUATION  
UNCHANGED! WE WERE  
STILL LINING UP OUR  
UNITS, CAPTAIN, WHEN  
THE THING TORE  
PAST US!

SORRY  
ABOUT THE  
DELAY SIR!  
IT WON'T  
HAPPEN  
AGAIN!



GROSVENOR WAS **ALREADY** THINKING DEEPLY ALONG **SIMILAR** LINES! ANY PICTURE THE ASTROPHYSICIST HAD RENDERED WOULD BE LIMITED TO THE SPECIALTY OF THE MAN'S **GIVEN FIELD!**

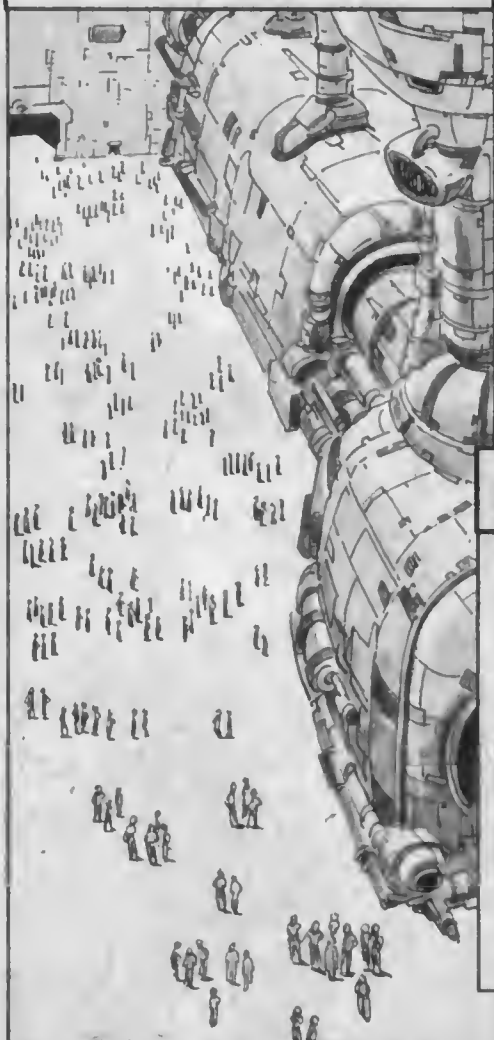


WHEN **GROSVENOR** FIRST ARRIVED IN THE **ENGINE ROOM**, HE WAS **UNEASY** IN THE PRESENCE OF SO MANY CREWMEMBERS...**STRANGERS** TO HIM! HE WAS **ALWAYS** MORE COMFORTABLE WITH **THEORY** THAN WITH **PEOPLE!**

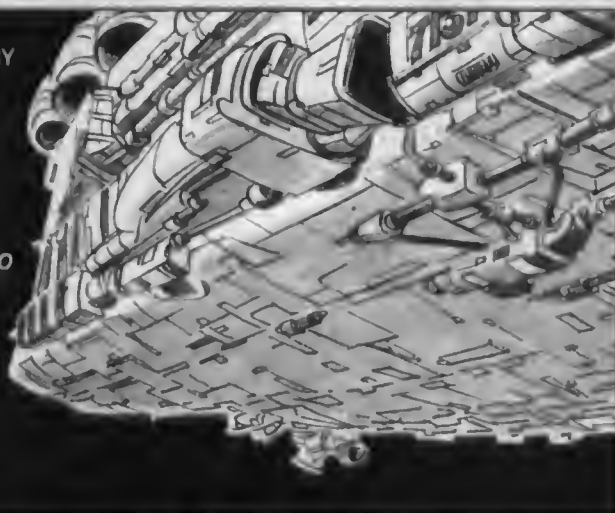
BUT GRADUALLY, HE FOUND HIMSELF TAKING **COMFORT** IN THE **CLOSE PROXIMITY** OF SO MANY FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS! **HERE**, HE FELT **SAFE** FROM THE **ALIEN TERROR** THAT HAD INFILTRATED THE **SPACE BEAGLE!** SURELY, BY **SHEER FORCE OF NUMBERS**, THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO **DEFEAT** THE **EXTRATERRESTRIAL!**



BUT JUST AS THE **AWESOME ENGINE ROOM MACHINERY DWAFFED** THE **FRAGILE CREWMEMBERS...**



...SO DID THE **EXTRAORDINARY POWERS** OF THE **ALIEN** **DEFY** THE **ANALYSIS** OF THE **PRIMITIVE TERRAN SCIENCE!** THERE WERE NO **GUARANTEES**, **GROSVENOR** KNEW, NO **SPECIAL FAVORS** TO BE **DISPENSED** FROM THE **INKY INFINITY** OF **SPACE!**



**CAPTAIN LEETH** AND **DIRECTOR MORTON** **ADDRESSED** THE **852 MEN** AND **WOMEN** OF THE **STARVESSEL!**

I **TRULY** **HOPED** THIS **GATHERING** **PROVES** **MORE FRUITFUL** THAN THE ONE I JUST **HELD** ON THE **BRIDGE** WITH **MILITARY** AND **SCI-DEPARTMENT** **HEADS!**

**YOU'VE** **ALL** **BEEN BRIEFED!** ANY **IDEAS** ON HOW WE CAN **CORNER** THE **CREATURE?!**



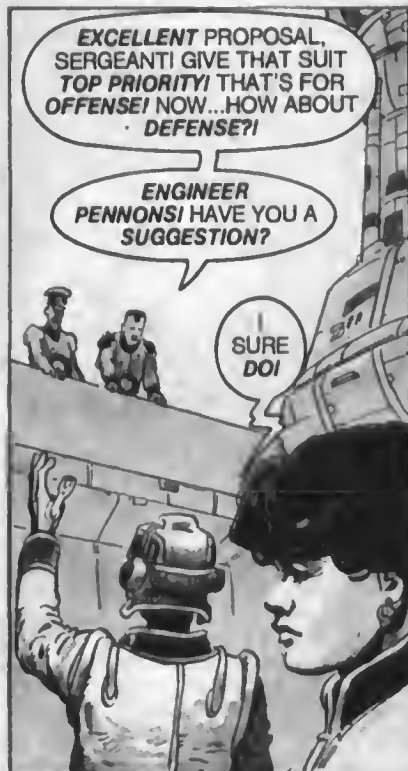
**SGT. ANN ZELLER** **ANSWERED** **BRISKLY!** SHE WAS IN **CHARGE** OF THE **METALLURGY** **SECTION!**

YES **SIR!** IT'S CLAIMED THE **INTRUDER** CAN'T **PENETRATE** **RESISTANCE** **METALS!** MY **ASSISTANTS** ARE **DESIGNING** AN **ARMORED SUIT** OF THAT **ALLOY!**

WITH IT, WE CAN **HUNT** THE **ALIEN** WITH **IMPUNITY!**







EXCELLENT PROPOSAL, SERGEANT! GIVE THAT SUIT TOP PRIORITY! THAT'S FOR OFFENSE! NOW...HOW ABOUT DEFENSE?!

ENGINEER PENNONSI HAVE YOU A SUGGESTION?

SURE DOI



WE ALMOST **SNARED** THE MAN-KILLER WHEN WE **ENERGIZED** THE **DORM WALLS** THE LAST TIME IT CAME POKING AROUND! I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME, MEN, OR EQUIPMENT TO **E-SHIELD** ALL THE DECKS...

...BUT I CAN **FORCE-SCREEN** THE FLOORS OF TWO LEVELS...SAY, SEVEN AND NINE!



WHEN THE ALIEN COMES UP FROM BELOW WHERE IT'S BEEN **LURKING**, WE CAN **TRAP** IT **BETWEEN DECKS** AND USE THE HEAVY PORTABLES TO **FINISH** IT **OFF**!

GOOD, PENNONSI! THAT'S THE KIND OF TALK I WANT TO **HEAR**! BY GOD, WE'LL DO IT!



GROSVENOR HAD SERIOUS **DOUBTS** ABOUT THE SCHEME! WHOLISTICALLY, HE COULD SEE MANY POTENTIAL **GLITCHES**, AND BLUNTLY SAID **SO**!

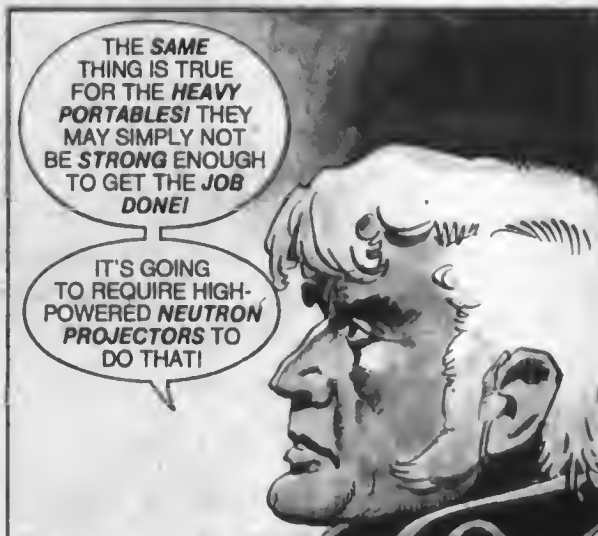
EXCUSE ME, CAPTAIN! I HAVE TO POINT OUT THE THING WASN'T **STOPPED** BY THE FORCE SHIELDS!

IT WAS **DETERRED**...BUT NOT CAPTURED OR **KILLED**!



WHAT ARE YOU **HINTING** AT, NEXALIST? THAT OUR SCREENS ARE NEXT TO **USELESS**?!

NOT ENTIRELY! ENERGIZING TWO LEVELS MAY **SLOW** IT DOWN...BUT THERE'S A CHANCE, A GOOD CHANCE, IT WILL **STILL** MANAGE TO **PIERCE** OUR SHIELDS!



THE SAME THING IS TRUE FOR THE **HEAVY PORTABLES**! THEY MAY SIMPLY NOT BE **STRONG** ENOUGH TO GET THE **JOB DONE**!

IT'S GOING TO REQUIRE **HIGH-POWERED NEUTRON PROJECTORS** TO DO THAT!



NUCLEAR  
ARTILLERY! INSIDE  
A STARVESSEL?

YOU'LL KILL  
US FASTER THAN  
THE MONSTER,  
GROSVENOR!

QUIET, PLEASE!

IN ALL  
FAIRNESS, LET'S  
HEAR THE NEXIALIST  
OUT! HE'S OFTEN  
BEEN RIGHT!

IT'S CLEAR THE  
CREATURE WANTS US  
ALIVE! IT MURDERED A  
CREWMAN BUT ABANDONED  
THE BODY, AND YET  
FLED WITH VON  
GROSSENI!

OBVIOUSLY, THE DEAD  
ARE USELESS TO IT, WHEREAS  
THE LIVING ARE SOMEHOW  
VITALLY IMPORTANT!

THOSE ARE THE  
STAKES THAT CONFRONT  
US, GENTLEMEN AND  
WOMEN!



THANK YOU,  
SIRS! NOW, AS  
FOR PRIMARY AND  
SECONDARY RADIATION,  
THE CORRIDORS CAN  
BE BLOCKED OFF FROM  
EACH OTHER WITH  
MAGNETIC  
SEALS!

BUT THIS  
ONLY BRINGS  
ME TO THE  
MOST DIFFICULT  
PART OF MY  
STRATEGY!

SINCE IT WANTS WARM-BLOODED PREY,  
EVERYONE NOT MANNING AN N-PROJECTOR WILL  
HAVE TO BE BAIT...TO LURE THE THING  
WITHIN RANGE OF THE BIG GUNS!

IT WILL MEAN FIRING  
ON AND PERHAPS KILLING OUR  
OWN PEOPLE, MYSELF INCLUDED!  
BUT THE ALTERNATIVE IS EVEN  
WORSE TO CONSIDER, THAT THE  
ALIEN MAY WREST CONTROL OF  
THE BEAGLE FROM US!



QUIET DOWN NOW!  
QUIET!

THIS IS THE  
HARDEST DECISION OF  
MY LIFE...BUT GROSVENOR'S  
TACTICS DO MAKE SENSE! IT'S  
GOING TO TAKE A WHILE TO  
ROLL OUT THE ATOMIC CANNONS  
...BUT WE'LL STILL HAVE THE  
HEAVY PORTABLES ON PATROL  
TO PROTECT US!

START  
ENERGIZING  
LEVELS 7 AND 9  
AT ONCE! DIS-  
MISSED!



CONTINUED ON PAGE FORTY...!



THEY JOURNEY INTO THE DEEP,  
FORGOTTEN PAST...HURTLE BEYOND  
THE ENDLESS LIMITS OF TIME ITSELF  
INTO THE AWESOME, MYSTERIOUS  
FUTURE!

THEY DELVE INTO THE MOST PRESSING MYSTERIES  
OF EARTH...THREE OF THE MOST BRILLIANT MINDS  
WHO EVER LIVED! THEY ARE GRANT LEWIS, RICK  
JAMES AND CINDY BARRIE...OTHERWISE KNOWN  
AS...THE INFINITY FORCE!

EERIE SHOWCASE

THE

# INFINITY FORCE





MWANZA, TANZANIA, OFF THE SOUTHERN-MOST TIP OF LAKE VICTORIA IN CENTRAL AFRICA...!

JEEP COMING, GRANT! COULD BE TROUBLE!

HOLD IT, RICK! THAT LOOKS LIKE CINDY!



OH, RICK... GRANT! IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU BOTH!

CINDY! WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?



I THOUGHT YOU WERE ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG NEAR LAKE TANGANYIKA!

I WAS... UNTIL I UNEARTHED THIS...



...THE GREATEST ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY EVER DREDGED UP BY MAN!

LOOKS LIKE AN ORDINARY PIECE OF METAL TO ME! WHAT IS IT...SOME SORT OF ALUMINUM ALLOY?



THAT'S JUST IT! WE DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS! IT'S LIKE NO METAL KNOWN TO MAN!

YOU'RE KIDDING!

WAIT'LL YOU HEAR THE CLINCHER!



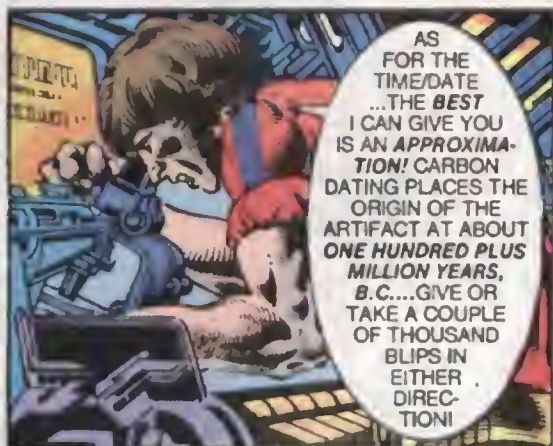
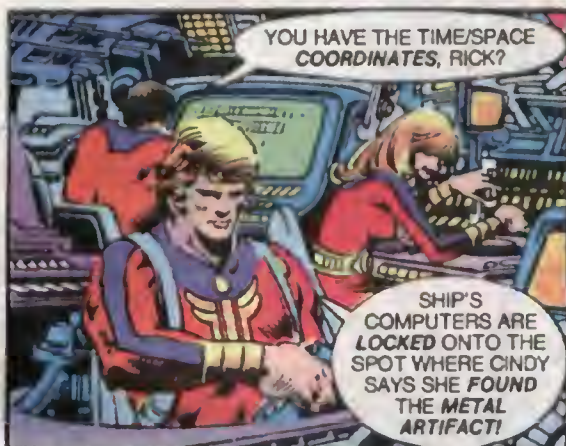
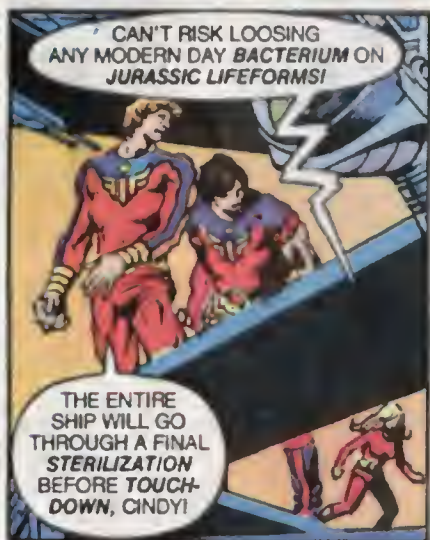
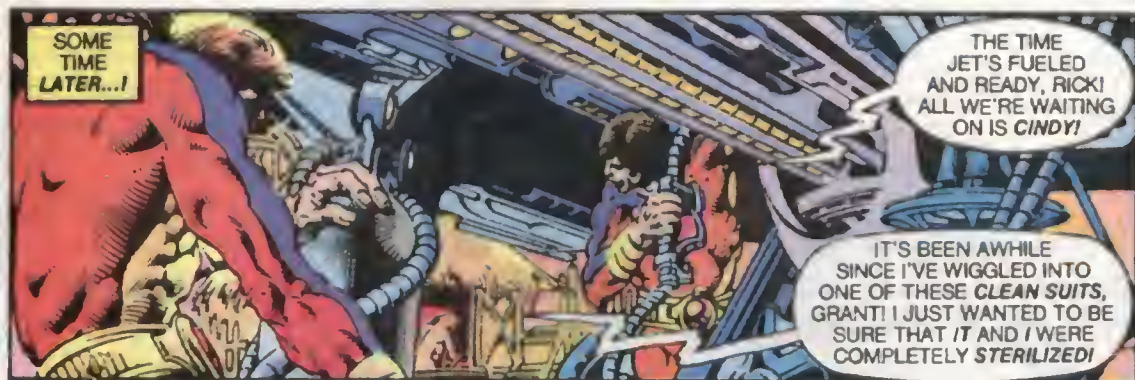
IT'S MORE THAN A HUNDRED MILLION YEARS OLD!



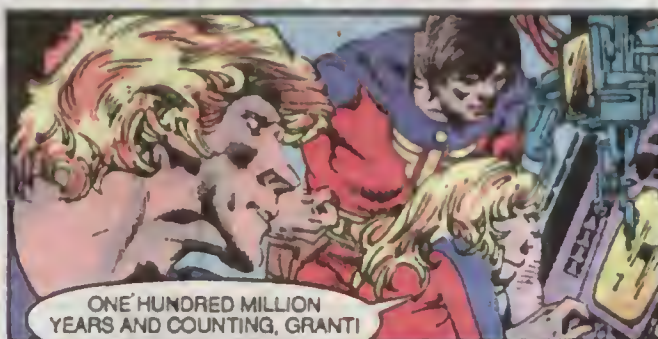
SO I THOUGHT...

...CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG...BUT YOU THOUGHT A TIME TRIP WAS CALLED FOR!

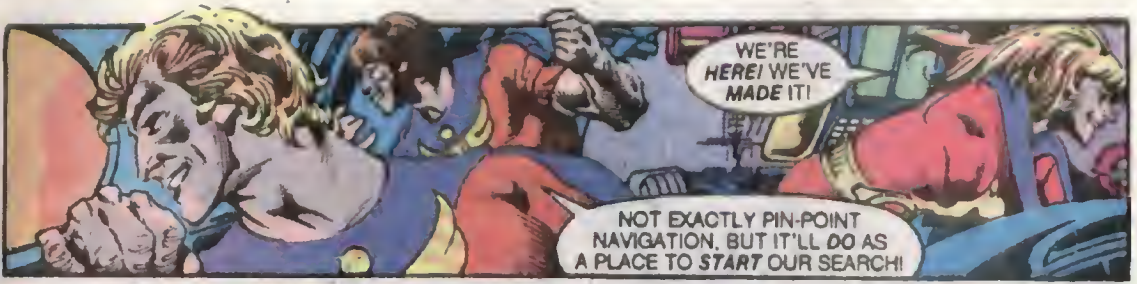




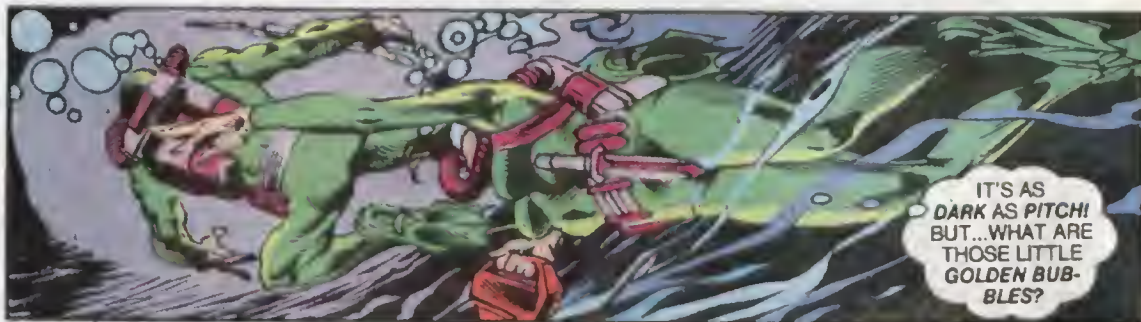








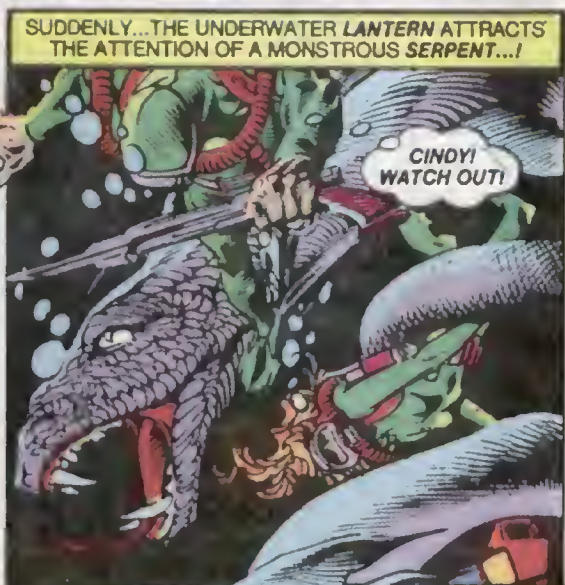




IT'S AS  
DARK AS PITCH!  
BUT...WHAT ARE  
THOSE LITTLE  
GOLDEN BUB-  
BLES?



YES, I SEE  
THEM, TOO! THEY LOOK  
ALMOST LIKE SOME SORT  
OF FISH'S EGGS! MAYBE  
WE SHOULD-I



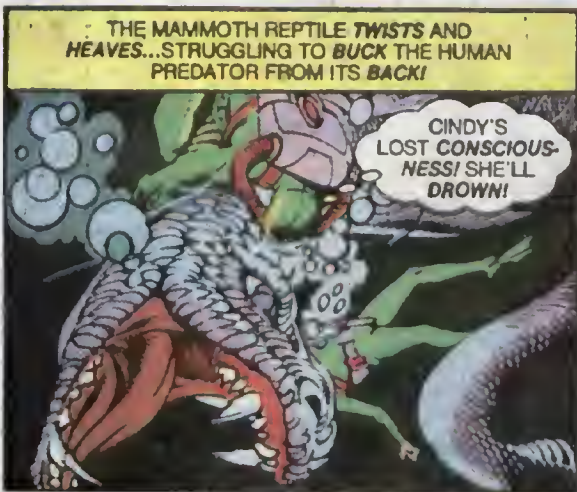
SUDDENLY...THE UNDERWATER LANTERN ATTRACTS  
THE ATTENTION OF A MONSTROUS SERPENT...!

CINDY!  
WATCH OUT!



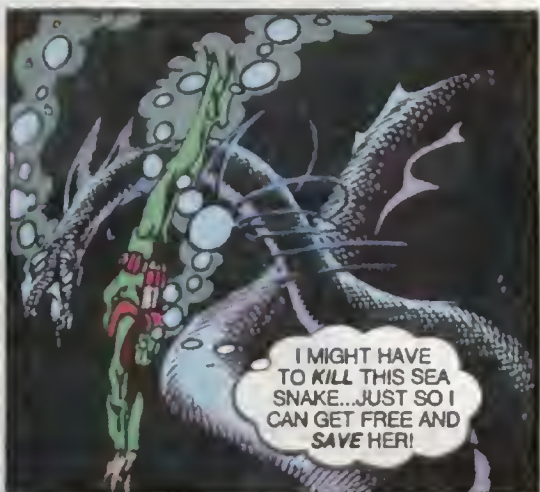
LET  
HER GO,  
YOU OVERGROWN,  
SLUDGE-SUCKING  
WORM!

KKSHSH!



THE MAMMOTH REPTILE TWISTS AND  
HEAVES...STRUGGLING TO BUCK THE HUMAN  
PREDATOR FROM ITS BACK!

CINDY'S  
LOST CONSCIOUS-  
NESS! SHE'LL  
DROWN!



I MIGHT HAVE  
TO KILL THIS SEA  
SNAKE...JUST SO I  
CAN GET FREE AND  
SAVE HER!





NO! IT'S  
BREAKING AWAY!  
RUNNING FROM  
ME...!

HANG ON,  
CINDY! I'M  
COMING!



HER DIVING  
MASK! BUT...SHE'S  
NOT HERE! CINDY!  
OH GOD, CINDY!



THERE!  
SHE'S CONSCIOUS!  
ALIVE!

BUT WHAT'S  
THAT SHE FOUND?

IT LOOKS LIKE A SPACE  
PROBE OF SOME SORT! BUT DOWN  
HERE? IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!



THOSE 'GOLDEN  
BUBBLES' WE SAW...  
COMING OUT OF THAT  
SHIP! WHAT IF THEY'RE  
A FORM OF ALIEN LIFE?  
OR AN EXTRATERRESTRIAL  
DISEASE CAPABLE OF  
WIPING OUT ALL  
LIFE ON EARTH?



WE'VE GOT  
TO PLAY SAFE...  
TAKE SAMPLES OF  
THESE 'FISH EGGS'  
TO ANALYZE BACK  
AT THE LAB!



THE TIME-  
TRAVERSING  
DIVERS BREAK THE  
CALM SWAMP  
WATERS  
TOGETHER...BOTH  
INSTANTLY  
HORRIFIED AT THE  
NIGHTMARE  
WAITING FOR THEM  
ON THE SURFACE!



RICK!  
LOOK!





WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU DOING, GRANT?

TRYING TO DISSUADE MY FRIEND FROM SNACKING ON OUR STABILIZERS!

RARGH!



GET US THE HELL OUT OF HERE BEFORE WE END UP AS A PILE OF STEAMING DINOSAUR LEAVINGS!

RARGHGH!



ONE HUNDRED MILLION YEARS LATER, BACK AT THE INFINITY FORCE'S MWANZAN BASE STATION...!

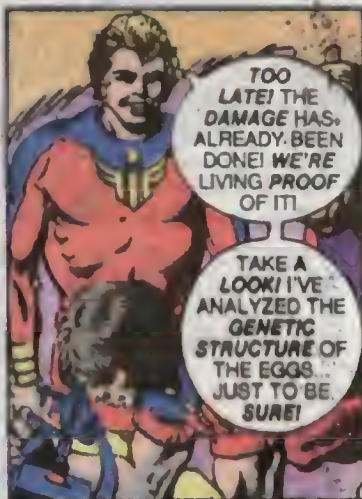
LOOK AT THIS! I'VE JUST FINISHED ANALYZING THOSE LITTLE 'FISH EGGS' WE FOUND!



THEY ARE AN ALIEN FORM OF LIFE! BUT WHAT ELSE COULD WE EXPECT FROM AN EXTRATERRESTRIAL SPACE PROBE?

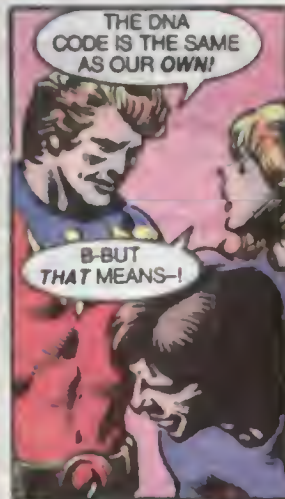
THEN WE'VE GOT TO GO BACK... DESTROY IT...

...BEFORE THEY CONTAMINATE ALL LIFE ON EARTH!



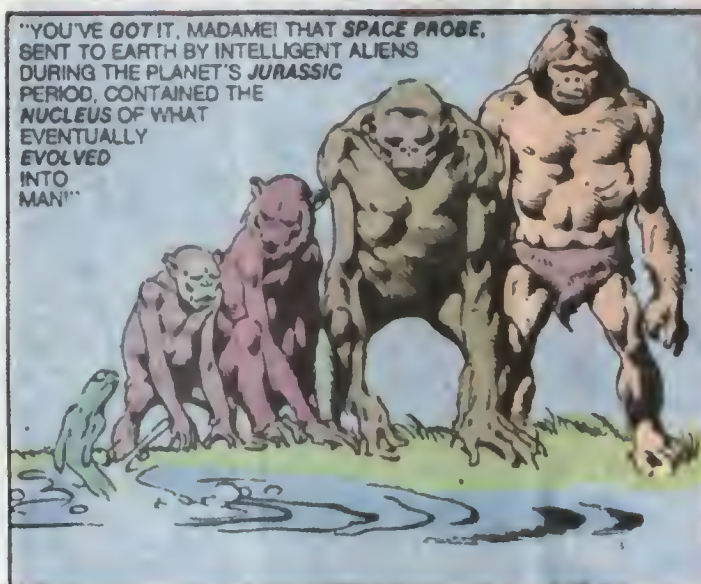
TOO LATE! THE DAMAGE HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE! WE'RE LIVING PROOF OF IT!

TAKE A LOOK! I'VE ANALYZED THE GENETIC STRUCTURE OF THE EGGS... JUST TO BE SURE!



THE DNA CODE IS THE SAME AS OUR OWN!

B-BUT THAT MEANS—!



"YOU'VE GOT IT, MADAME! THAT SPACE PROBE, SENT TO EARTH BY INTELLIGENT ALIENS DURING THE PLANET'S JURASSIC PERIOD, CONTAINED THE NUCLEUS OF WHAT EVENTUALLY EVOLVED INTO MAN!"



THEN THE CREATIONISTS AND THE EVOLUTIONISTS WERE BOTH RIGHT! MAN WAS CREATED BY SUPERIOR BEINGS... ONLY TO EVOLVE INTO WHAT WE ARE TODAY!

'GOD' LIVED ON ANOTHER PLANET ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY MILLION YEARS AGO! OH MY... WHAT OUR CREATORS MUST BE LIKE TODAY!

# ALIEN ATTACK

## GALACTIC WARS ACTION PLAY SET

COMPLETE WITH OVER 50 EXCITING PLAY PIECES, INCLUDING:

- Space Station with retractable ladder & removable dome
- 10 Aliens
- 8 Commandos
- 6 Giant Robots
- 2 Space Commando Ships
- 2 Alien Space Cruisers
- Action Diorama
- Plastic Terrain

There's no limit to the adventures you can have with this bargain-priced playset...except your imagination itself! The colorful diorama background and plastic mountains will make you think you're actually on the surface of another planet as you stage thrilling land and air battles between the aliens and your space commandos! Huge domed space station, easily assembled! Many action figures and flying vehicles with working wheels! Many hours of fun! #26147/\$6.75



# DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

## MODEL KITS!

**ORC WAR ACTION SCENE** A team of adventurers assault the evil Warlock's castle! Almost 30 figures including dwarf warriors, witch, Orcs, monsters! Preformed 12 x 18" base includes castle foundation, moat, mountains, battlefield! Combine with Dungeon Invaders to form huge scene! #24261/\$10.75

**DUNGEON INVADERS ACTION SCENE** Adventurers seek to steal the wizard's treasure chests! They're guarded by a dragon and a zombie...not to mention the shrieker and the carrion worm! The 12 x 15" preformed base simulates an actual gaming situation! #24262/\$10.75

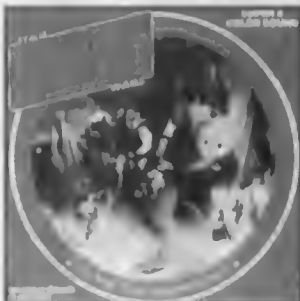


# OUT OF THIS WORLD!

## NEW SUPER-8 FILMS!



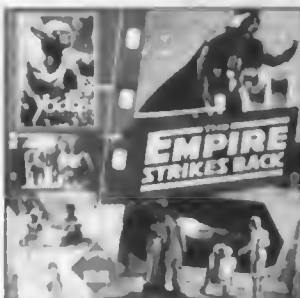
**ALIEN!** The most frightening monster ever to stalk across the cinema screens comes to life in this 200-foot condensation of the 1979 sci-fi classic! In chest-bursting sound & color! #22128/\$22.95



**EMPIRE STRIKES BACK #1**—Devilish Darth Vader vs. Luke Skywalker, Han Solo & Princess Leia in an exciting array of scenes from the original movie! 200 feet in color and sound! #22129/\$22.95



You'll gasp with delight at the breathtaking visuals in this selection of scenes from **STAR WARS**! See the rebel attack on the Death Star & more in this 360-foot color/sound film! #22130/\$59.95



**EMPIRE STRIKES BACK #2**—Luke befriends the Jedi Master Yoda, then sets out to confront Darth Vader himself in this 360-foot version of the original film! Dazzling color & sound! #22131/\$59.95

# THE FILMS OF CHRISTOPHER LEE

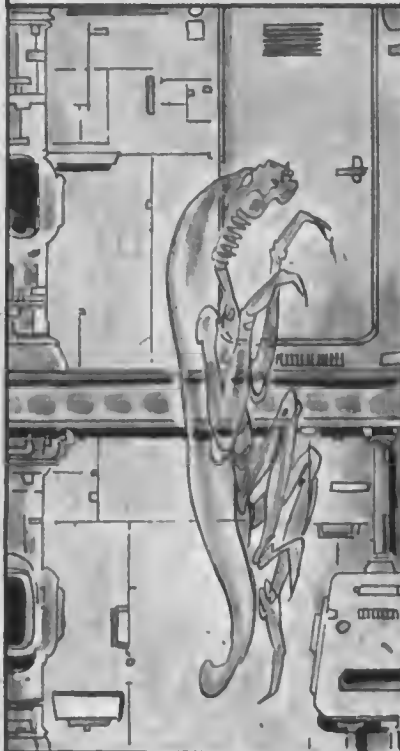


**THE FILMS OF CHRISTOPHER LEE** is a must for all fans of the horror genre. It expertly traces the career of one of the masters of the macabre, from 1948's **CORRIDOR OF MIRRORS** to 1980's **THE SERIAL** and, in so doing, superbly captures the style and grace of one of the most popular screen actors in the business. This large-format, lavishly illustrated volume is a film buff's treasure, and includes full cast and production credits, release information, and reviews about all of Lee's films. Diversified appendices enhance this monumental portrait of one of fear-domin's greatest giants. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! #21451/\$29.50



THE REAPPEARANCE OF THE CREW BROUGHT IXTL UP TO THE SPACE BEAGLE'S *MIDDLE LEVELS* WITH A *RUSH!*

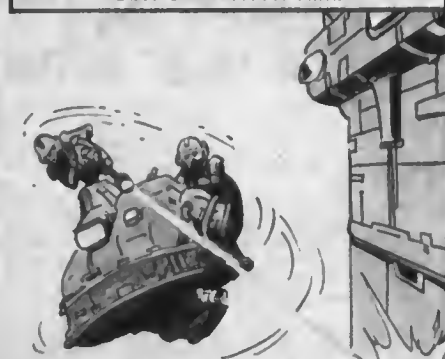
HE WAS A *NEBULOUS SHAPE*, A GHOSTLY, EIGHT-LIMBED SPECTER, THAT *FLITTED* THROUGH STEEL-PLATED WALLS AND FLOORS!



TWICE HE WAS SEEN...



...AND GIANT VIBROGUNS FLASHED SONIC DEATH AT HIM!



DRZZKT!



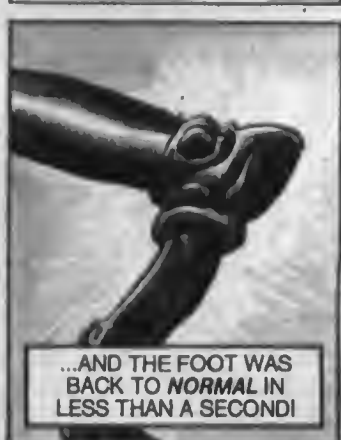
THEY WERE FAR *DIFFERENT* FROM THE FEEBLE HAND WEAPONS HE HAD FACED UP TO NOW!

THESE VIBRO-SHOTS *SHATTERED* THE BULKHEADS THROUGH WHICH HE *LEAPED* TO *FLEE* THEIR LETHAL FORCE!



ONCE, THE BEAM *TOUCHED* A PEDAL EXTREMITY! THE *HOT SHOCK* OF THE MOLECULAR VIOLENCE ALMOST MADE HIM *STUMBLE!*

HIS ATOM SYSTEMS *SWIRLED...*



...AND THE FOOT WAS BACK TO *NORMAL* IN LESS THAN A SECOND!



IXTL WAS NOT **ALARMED** BY THE SONIC DEVICE! HIS DEADLY **SPEED** AND RUTHLESS **CUNNING** COULD **EASILY** OFFSET THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE NEW **WEAPONS!**



THE **IMPORTANT** THING WAS...**WHAT** WERE THE TWO-LEGGERS **DOING?** WITHOUT A DOUBT, WHEN THEY HAD **SHUT THEMSELVES UP** IN THE IMPREGNABLE DRIVE ROOM, THEY HAD DEVISED A **PLAN!**

WITH GLITTERING, UNWINKING EYES, IXTL **WATCHED** THE **PLAN** TAKE **FORM!**



IN EVERY CORRIDOR AND COMPARTMENT ON **TWO LEVELS**, THE MEN WERE LAYING THE LINES OF A **TRANSFORMER GRID!** THE GLORIAN NOTED THAT EVERY INCH OF FLOOR WAS BEING **COVERED** BY THE THICK NETWORK OF **CABLES**, AND THAT IT WAS NECESSARY FOR THE MALADAPTIVE MANLINGS TO WEAR BULKY **SPACE ARMOR** WHILE WORKING ON THE **ENERGIZED PROJECT!**

JUST **WHEN** THE FORCE SCREEN WOULD BE **DANGEROUS** TO HIM, IXTL WAS NOT **CERTAIN**, NOR WAS HE **CONCERNED!**



IT WAS **SIMPLE** ENOUGH TO REACH THROUGH THE WALLS WHEN THERE WERE NO GUARDS AROUND AND **RIP LOOSE** THE HIGH-VOLTAGED CONNECTIONS!

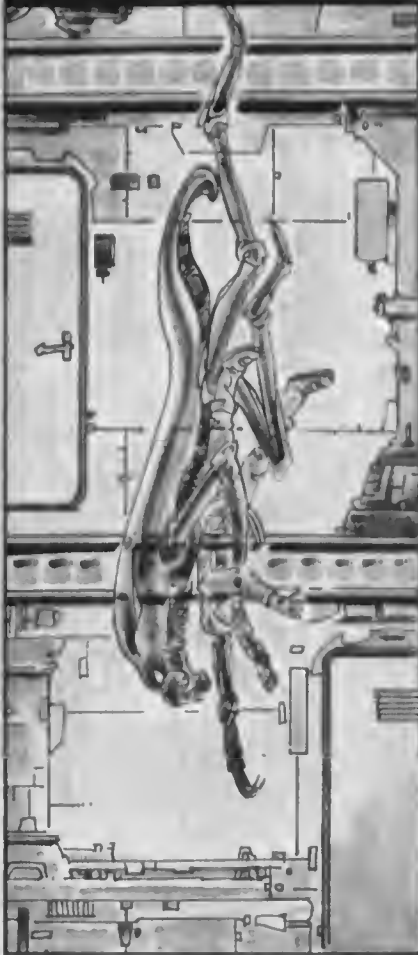
**CONTEMPTUOUSLY**, IXTL **DISMISSED** THE INTENDED **TRAP** FROM HIS MIND! AFTER A **PRELIMINARY SURVEY**, HE **SELECTED** HIS NEXT **VICTIM...**

...AND **LAUNCHED** HIMSELF!



BEFORE A SINGLE PORTABLE COULD BE **TRAINED** ON HIM, HE WAS **GONE** WITH HIS **PREY**!

IT WAS NO FEAT TO **ADJUST** HIS ELECTRON STRUCTURE THE MOMENT HE WAS THROUGH A CEILING, AND SO **BREAK** HIS FALL TO THE FLOOR BENEATH!



THE HOLD WAS NOW FAMILIAR TERRITORY! HE HAD **EXPLORED** IT BRIEFLY BUT **THOROUGHLY** AFTER HE FIRST **INVAD**ED THIS CRAFT!



UNERRINGLY, IXTL **STALKED** ACROSS THE DIMLY LIT INTERIOR TOWARDS A FAR WALL! GREAT PACKING CASES WERE **PILED HIGH**! HE WENT **THROUGH** THEM OR **AROUND** THEM, AS IT **SUITED** HIM.

QUICKLY, HE LET HIMSELF **DISSOLVE** THROUGH THE FLOOR! **DOWN** AND **DOWN**, HE WENT! IN THAT GIGANTIC BELLY OF THE SHIP, HE HALF **FELL**, HALF **LOWERED** HIMSELF!

HE COULD HAVE MOVED **FASTER**, BUT HE HAD TO BE **CAREFUL** NOT TO **DAMAGE** THE **HUMAN** HE CARRIED!



AND PRESENTLY FOUND HIMSELF WITHIN A LARGE **DUCT**! THE BIG, WINDING PIPE WAS PART OF THE BEAGLE'S **LABYRINTHINE AIR RECYCLING SYSTEM**!

HIS HIDING PLACE WOULD BE **DARK** BY **ORDINARY** LIGHT! BUT TO HIS **INFRA-RED SENSITIVE VISION**, A FAINT **TWILIGHT GLOW** SUFFUSED HIS SURROUNDINGS!



HOLDING HIS CAPTIVE STEADY, IXTL CAREFULLY INSERTED TWO OF HIS WIFE FINGERED HANDS INTO HIS OWN BREAST, REMOVED A GELATINOUS EGG



...AND DEPOSITED IT INTO THE BIPE'S WARM STOMACH! THE MANLING STRUGGLED!



SLOWLY, THE MUSCLES GREW PROGRESSIVELY RIGID... AND THE ENTIRE BODY BEGAN TO STIFFEN, PARALYZED, A LIVING DEATH!



IN THE END, THE HOST LAY MOTIONLESS! HIS EYES WERE OPEN AND STARING, AND THERE WAS SWEAT ON HIS FACE! WITHIN HOURS, THE EGGS WOULD BE HATCHING WITHIN EACH OF THE BODIES!



SOON, TINY REPLICAS OF HIMSELF WOULD EAT THEMSELVES TO FULL SIZE!

SATISFIED, IXTL STARTED UP OUT OF THE HOLD, HISSING AND DROOLING!



HE NEEDED MORE ORGANIC HATCHING PLACES...

...MORE MEN AND WOMEN...



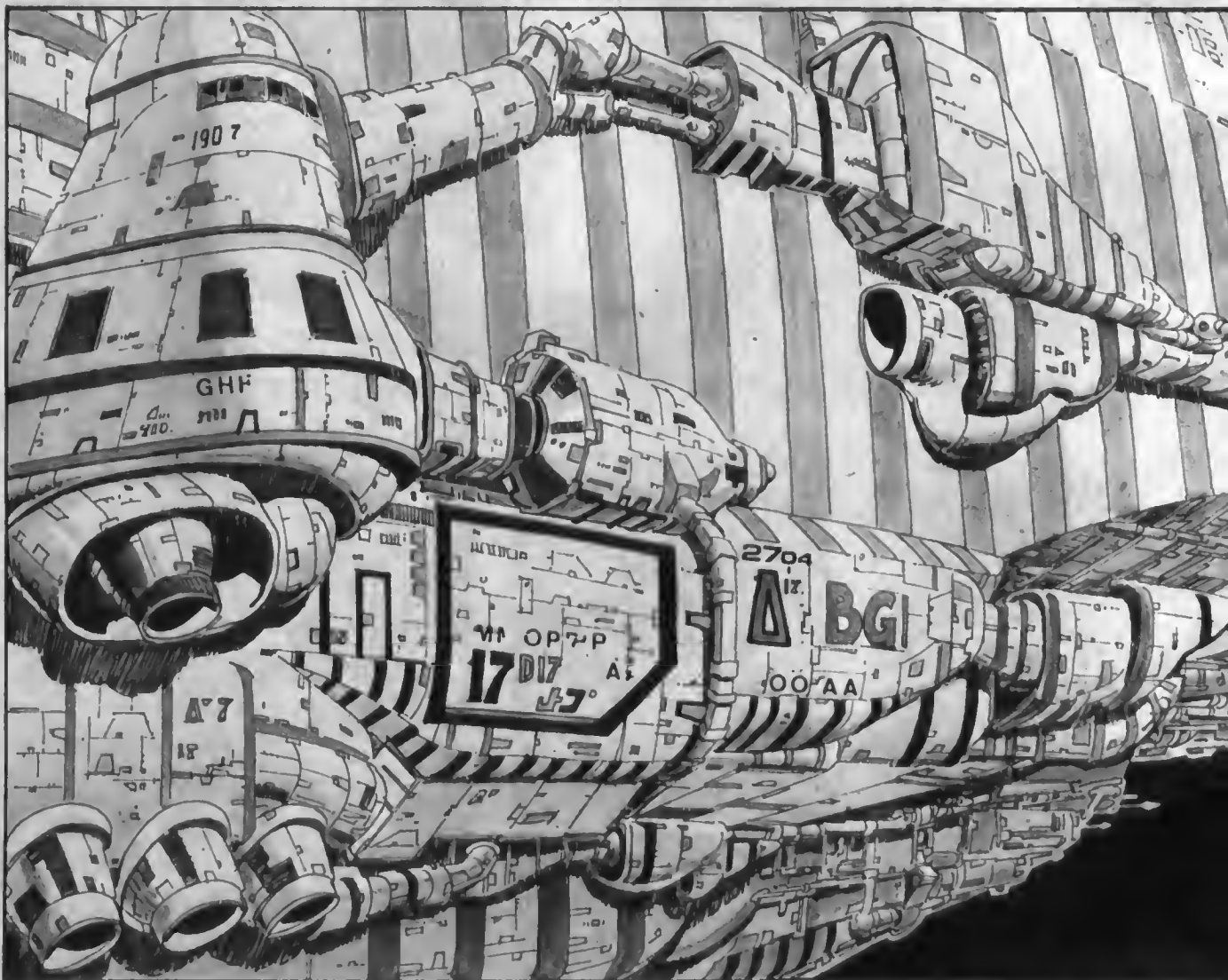
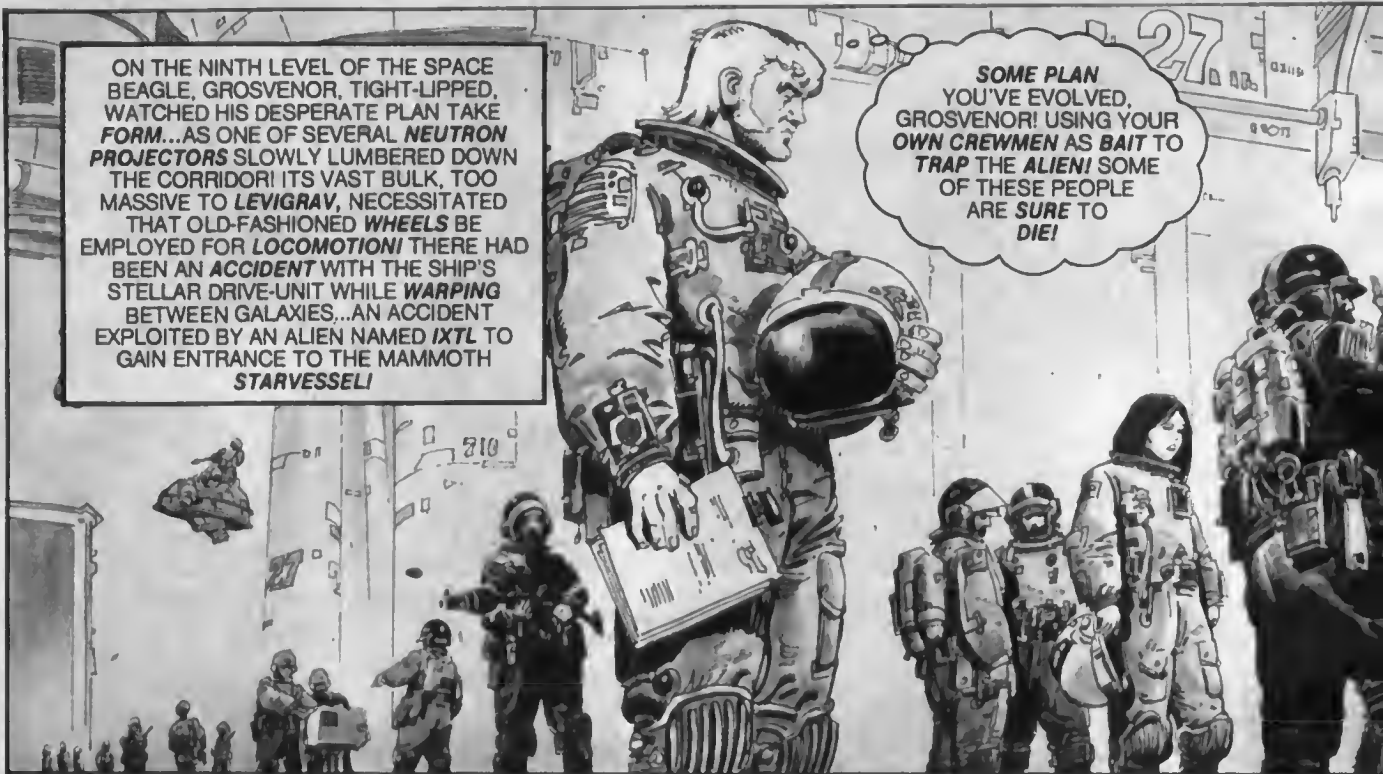
...TO BE HIS GULLS!





ON THE NINTH LEVEL OF THE SPACE BEAGLE, GROSVENOR, TIGHT-LIPPED, WATCHED HIS DESPERATE PLAN TAKE FORM...AS ONE OF SEVERAL **NEUTRON PROJECTORS** SLOWLY LUMBERED DOWN THE CORRIDOR! ITS VAST BULK, TOO MASSIVE TO **LEVIGRAV**, NECESSITATED THAT OLD-FASHIONED **WHEELS** BE EMPLOYED FOR **LOCOMOTION**! THERE HAD BEEN AN **ACCIDENT** WITH THE SHIP'S STELLAR DRIVE-UNIT WHILE **WARPING** BETWEEN GALAXIES...AN ACCIDENT EXPLOITED BY AN ALIEN NAMED **IXTL** TO GAIN ENTRANCE TO THE MAMMOTH **STARVESSEL**!

SOME PLAN YOU'VE EVOLVED, GROSVENOR! USING YOUR OWN CREWMEN AS BAIT TO TRAP THE ALIEN! SOME OF THESE PEOPLE ARE SURE TO DIE!





GROSVENOR LOOKED WITHIN HIMSELF, AND SAW A MAN WHO HAD COLDLY WORKED OUT AN *EQUATION*...SOME *FEW* MUST *DIE* TO *SAVE* THE *MANY*! HE WAS MOST COMFORTABLE IN SEEING IT AS THE ONLY *LOGICAL SOLUTION*!

MEN HAD DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTED A HUGE SPACESHIP OF AWESOME *COMPLEXITY* AND *DURABILITY*, THEN WRAPPED THEMSELVES INSIDE IT LIKE A *COCOON* AND VENTURED FORTH INTO THE *UNKNOWN*! BUT ALL THE MEGATON ALLOYS AND WEAPONS AND COMPUTER CIRCUITRY IN THE WORLD COULD NOT PREVENT A LIVING *HORROR* FROM *INVADING* THEIR *COCOON*!

AND ALL THE *RATIONALIZING* IN THE WORLD COULD NOT *DISTRACT* THE LOGICAL GROSVENOR FROM THIS *ONE FACT*, ONE *HORROR*...HE WAS *PLAYING GOD* WITH *HUMAN LIVES*!



# THE VOYAGE OF THE SPACE BEAGLE

## PART THREE



AS THE **ATOMIC CANNON** ROLLED INTO PLACE, A YOUNG **ENSIGN**, FEARING POSSIBLE DEATH, TOOK OUT HER **RAGE** AND **FRUSTRATION** ON THE **NEXIALIST**!



YOU!

EH...?

THIS SCHEME'S **YOUR** DOING, GROSVENORI! IF I'M GOING TO DIE FROM **RADIATION BURNS**...AT LEAST TELL ME I'LL HAVE THE SATISFACTION THAT YOU'LL **BAKE WITH ME!**

NO MATTER HOW SICK AT HEART HE FELT *INSIDE*, HE *KNEW* THAT **OUTWARDLY**, HE MUST BE AS **HARD AND COLD** AS THE **BEAGLE'S HULL!**

THERE'S NO NEED TO **WAIT** FOR THAT SITUATION TO **ARISE**, ENSIGN! THERE'S **ANOTHER** ALTERNATIVE, SHOULD YOU WISH TO **PURSUE** IT!

AND THAT IS...?!

COMMIT SUICIDE!

BEFORE THE STARTLED YOUNG OFFICER COULD **RESPOND**, CAPTAIN LEETH'S VOICE **CRACKLED** OVER GROSVENOR'S **WRIST-COM!**

CAN YOU REPORT TO **LEVEL SEVEN** AT ONCE? **CENTRAL CORRIDOR! URGENT PRIORITY!**

THE **NEXIALIST** DESCENDED THE TWO LEVELS WITH A SENSE OF **DREAD!** THE CAPTAIN'S OVERLY-CALM VOICE HINTED AT **RESTRAINED TENSION**, EVEN **TERROR!**

WITHIN SECONDS, THE **AUTO-LIFT DOORS** **HISSED OPEN...**



**YESSIR!**  
I'LL BE RIGHT THERE...!



SOMETHING, HE INSTANTLY **SURMISED**, WAS **WRONG!**



OH...

...MY...

...GOD!

...AND HE FOUND A **NIGHTMARE!** ONE OF THE NEUTRON PROJECTORS WAS LYING ON ITS **SIDE!** BESIDE IT, **DEAD, BURNED BEYOND RECOGNITION,** LAY WHAT **REMAINED** OF THE **GUNNERY CREW!**



AND MORE **HORRIBLE** STILL, ALONG THE CORRIDOR IN THE PATH OF THAT DEADLY WEAPON, **WRITHED AND TWITCHED** SOME **TWENTY MEN AND WOMEN!**



IT HAD BEEN THEIR DUTY TO ACT AS **HUMAN DECOYS,** TO **ATTRACT** THE **BLOOD-COLORED ALIEN** WITHIN THE **LINE OF FIRE!**

BUT SOMETHING HAD GONE **HELLISHLY AWRY!** MEDICS SOON ARRIVED AND OFFERED WHAT **AID** THEY COULD...



...BEFORE CARRYING THE **SCORCHED** PERSONNEL EITHER TO **SICK BAY** OR THE **SHIP'S MORGUE!**

GOOD LORD, CAPTAIN! WHAT HAPPENED HERE?!



ISN'T IT **OBVIOUS?** WE WERE **ATTACKED!**



N-NOOOO!

KLAK!

"THE MONSTER WASN'T FOOLED BY OUR DECEPTION IN THE SLIGHTEST!"

"IT FLASHED OUT OF A WALL LIKE A GHOST, SEIZED THE GUN'S TRIGGER OFFICER..."



"...TOPPLED THE CANNON WITH A TREMENDOUS  
DISPLAY OF **STRENGTH** AND THEN **MELTED** BACK INTO  
THE WALL, **VANISHING** WITHOUT A **TRACE!**"

"DAMAGED BY THE FALL, THE REACTOR-MOUNT  
BEGAN **BLASTING** WILDLY...UNTIL AUTO-RELAYS  
TRIPPED IT OFF!"



**DDZZOTT!**

"THOSE  
CLOSEST...  
THE GUNNERY  
CREW...TOOK  
THE BIGGEST  
DOSE OF  
HARD  
RADIATION!  
LETHAL MAX!"

**BWOT! BWOT!**



THE MEN IN THE  
CORRIDOR DIDN'T FARE MUCH  
BETTER! HALF OF 'EM CAUGHT  
PRIMARY BURNS!

BUT...  
WHAT ABOUT  
OUR CONTINGENCY  
PLAN?!

IF WE  
COULDN'T KILL  
IT OUTRIGHT, LEVELS  
SEVEN AND NINE WERE  
TO BE ENERGIZED,  
TRAPPING IT!



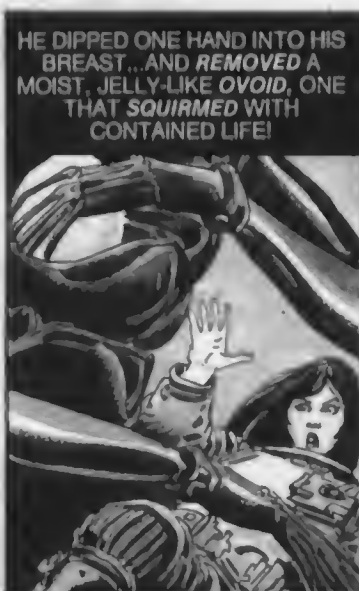
WE DON'T EXPECT  
A LOT OF THE **SECONDARIES**  
TO PULL THROUGH, EITHER!  
TO MAKE MATTERS **WORSE**,  
DIRECTOR MORTON WAS WITH  
THAT GROUP! I'M AFRAID  
HE'S DEAD!

THAT  
WAS YOUR  
DEPARTMENT,  
PENNONS! WHAT  
THE HELL WAS  
THE FOUL-  
UP?

LIKE THE CAPTAIN SAID, THE THING  
IS **SMARTER** THAN WE THOUGHT! WHEN I  
TRIED TO **ACTIVATE** THE DECK'S E-SCREEN,  
THE WHOLE SYSTEM **SHORTED-OUT!**

THE  
ALIEN  
MUST HAVE  
**DISCONNECTED**  
KEY TERMINAL  
WIRES AS WE  
WERE LAYING  
DOWN THE  
**POWER**  
GRID!







SHORTLY, HE AND HIS  
BROOD WOULD TAKE  
COMMAND OF THIS  
VESSEL...

...AND JOURNEY TO A  
POPULATED PLANET, WHERE  
HIS KIND WOULD ONCE  
AGAIN CONQUER AND  
FLOURISH!

LEAVING HIS *HOSTS* BEHIND IN THE DARK SAFETY OF THE VESSEL'S AIR  
RECYCLING DUCT, HE *AROSE* FROM THE HOLD, WRAITH-LIKE TO SEEK  
MORE *GUULS*!

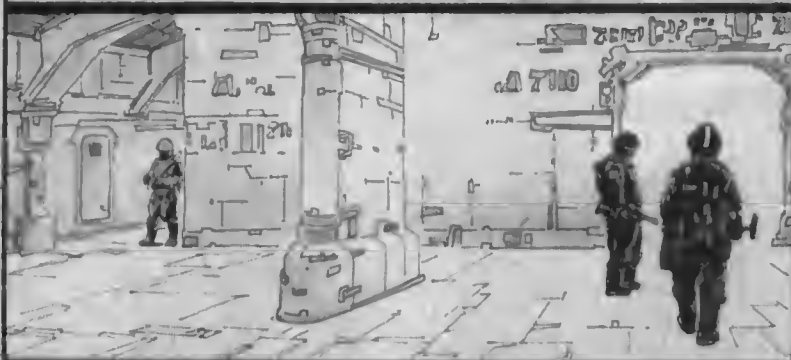


IXTL *LEAPED* FROM A BULKHEAD AND  
*CLAIMED* WHAT WAS HIS BY BIRTHRIGHT...A  
*LOWER FORM OF MATERIAL LIFE*!



HELP!  
SOMEONE...  
PLEASE! IT'S  
GOT ME!

CAPTAIN!  
THIS IS LEVEL  
EIGHT!



HE'S  
HEADING  
DOWN! SCREE!  
THE FLOORS!  
NOW...!

POWER'S ON,  
SIRI SYSTEM'S  
GREEN AND  
OPERATING!

PENNONS!



ALL ALONG LEVEL SEVEN, THE DECK PLATES SUDDENLY *GLOWED* WITH A DIFFUSED *BLUE HAZE*, AS THE BLANKETING *FORCE*  
*FIELD* HUMMED INTO EXISTENCE! THE SAME WAS OCCURRING *SIMULTANEOUSLY* ON LEVEL NINE!

WE'VE  
GOT HIM THIS  
TIME!

GOOD! NOW THE  
N-PROJECTORS CAN *CORNER*  
THE THING AND *BLAST* IT TO  
KINGDOM COME!



CAPTAIN LEETH **DEMAGNETIZED** HIS OMNI-MIKE FROM ITS WRIST-MOUNT, AND SPAT **ORDERS** INTO IT!

**SECURITY! FAN OUT SEARCH TEAMS ON LEVELS 7, 8 AND 9! I WANT THAT MONSTER'S HEAD SERVED TO ME ON A STAKE!**



IT DID NOT TAKE **LONG**, LESS THAN A **MINUTE**, BEFORE ONE OF THE SECURITY TEAMS **REPORTED BACK!**

WE **FOUND** THE ABDUCTED GUNNER, CAPTAIN-**DEAD!** AT THE END OF SERVICE CORRIDOR DELTA!

WE'LL BE **DIRECTLY THERE!** LEETH...**OUT!**



IT WAS **NOT** A PRETTY SIGHT! THE CORPSE LAY **SPRAWLED** UPON THE FIELD OF AZURE FORCE. SMALL **TENDRILS** OF ENERGY **LICKING** AT THE BODY!

**WHAT? YOU JUST LEFT HIM LIKE THAT?! PULL HIM LOOSE...!**

TWO SECURITY MEN **GINGERLY** STEPPED **FORWARD!** BLUE FLAME **LEAPED** AND **DANCED**, AS IF THE **ENERGIZED** SCREEN WERE **RELUCTANT** TO **YIELD** THE **LIFELESS** HUSK IN ITS **CRACKLING** POSSESSION!



I'M **STILL** WAITING FOR **REPORTS!** WE'VE **FOUND** ITS **VICTIM!** SO WHERE THE **HELL'S** THE **CREATURE?**

IT...IT'S **NOT** ON OR **BETWEEN** THE **SCREENED** **LEVELS**, CAPTAIN **LEETH!** THE **FORCE** **FIELD** **COULDN'T** **STOP** IT, **SIR!**



**WHAT? IT ESCAPED AGAIN?! IMPOSSIBLE!**

**NOW** **WHAT** **ARE** **WE** **GOING** **TO** **DO...?**

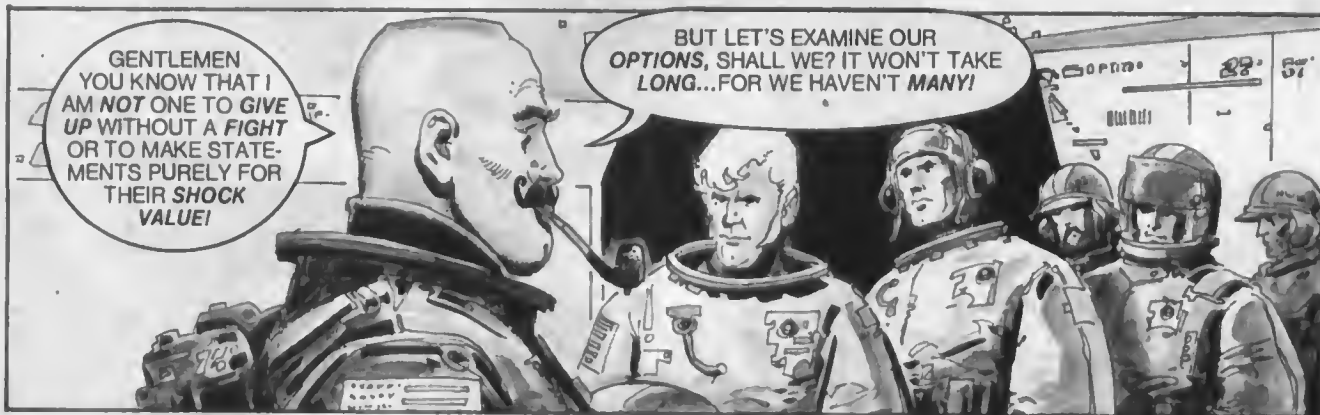


THERE WAS A **LONG**, **SULLEN** **SILENCE!** NOT EVEN **GROSVENOR** HAD AN **ANSWER!** THEY **KNEW** THAT THEY WERE **DOOMED!**

SIR, I WASN'T **SURE** ABOUT-I WE **THOUGHT** THAT **MAYBE** YOU-I

**YES, SIR!**





GENTLEMEN  
YOU KNOW THAT I  
AM **NOT** ONE TO GIVE  
UP WITHOUT A FIGHT  
OR TO MAKE STATE-  
MENTS PURELY FOR  
THEIR **SHOCK**  
VALUE!

BUT LET'S EXAMINE OUR  
OPTIONS, SHALL WE? IT WON'T TAKE  
LONG...FOR WE HAVEN'T MANY!



OUR VEE-WEAPS  
CAN **HURT** IT, HURT IT  
**BAD**...MAYBE EVEN **KILL** IT!  
BUT IT **EVADES** US WITH  
STEALTH AND BRAZEN  
**CUNNING**!

WE **E-SCREENED**  
TWO LEVELS JUST NOW  
TO **TRAP** IT...AND IT **STILL**  
GOT THROUGH THE FIELD,  
THOUGH THE PRICE PAID  
HAD TO BE EXCRU-  
CIATING PAIN!

OF COURSE,  
WE **COULD** RUN AN  
UNCONTROLLED **ATOMIC**  
**CHARGE** THROUGHOUT  
THE ENTIRE SHIP, BUT  
WE'D BLAST **OUR-**  
**SELVES** AS  
WELL!

OUR **FINAL**  
RESORT WOULD  
BE TO **ABANDON**  
**SHIP**--!



**ABANDON SHIP?!**  
THAT WOULD BE A **SLOWER**  
DEATH THAN IF WE REMAINED  
**BEHIND** TO FACE THE  
MONSTER!

**EXACTLY!**

SUDDENLY, THE VOICE OF  
SGT. ANN ZELLER, THE  
BEAGLE'S **METALLURGIST**,  
CRACKLED OVER LEETH'S  
**WRIST-COM**!

ZELLER TO  
LEETH! SGT. ZELLER  
REPORTING! CAPTAIN?  
DIRECTOR? ANYBODY  
READ ME? OVER!



LEETH TO  
ZELLER! WHAT'S  
THE STATUS ON YOUR  
**RESISTANCE SUIT**? IF  
IT'S MORE **BAD NEWS**  
BREAK IT TO US  
**GENTLY**!



THE SUIT'S JUST COMPLETED, SIR! **BULKY BUT FUNCTIONAL!** I TRIED TO REPORT IN **EARLIER**, BUT GOT ONLY **STATIC** ACROSS THE BAND! GUESS THE **ENERGIZATION** OF THE UPPER LEVELS WAS DEFLECTING MY SIGNAL!



I'M FINISHED INSPECTING THE **CARGO HOLDS!** RESULTS, **NEGATIVE!** I'M NOW EXPLORING THE **ZERO-TWO RECYCLING DUCT-I**

W-WAIT! I THINK I SEE **SOMETHING** UP AHEAD..!



IT...IT'S **THEM!** VON GROSSEN AND THE OTHERS! CAN'T TELL IF THEY'RE **ALIVE** OR NOT! THEY LOOK **PARALYZED**, AND...!



...AND, MY **GOD**, THE **THING'S** HERE, **TOO!** REPEAT! THE **THING'S** HERE **TOO...**!

SSSSSS!



BZZATT!

I'M HOLDING IT OFF WITH MY **VIBROGUN!** BUT THAT'S ALL!...I NEED **REINFORCEMENTS!** LOTS OF THEM...



...AND FAST!

ALL SECURITY TEAMS, **MOVE** YOUR RUMPS! YOU **HEARD** THE **LADY!** **MOVE!**



IXTL WITHDREW RELUCTANTLY AS ADDITIONAL FORCES ARRIVED, CARRYING OFF HIS GUULS!

SSSSSS!  
ZZOT!  
ZZITT!

THE FIRST SHRINKING FEAR OF DEFEAT CLOSED OVER HIM LIKE THE FROZEN NIGHT THAT BROODED BEYOND THE WALLS OF THE SHIP!

HIS IMMEDIATE *IMPULSE* WAS TO DASH INTO THEIR MIDST AND *SMASH* THEM! BUT THEIR UGLY, GLITTERING *WEAPONS* RESTRAINED THE DESPERATE URGE...

VIP!  
VIP!

BZITT!

ZZOTT!

THE TWO-LEGGERS WOULD SOON DISCOVER THE *EGGS* INCUBATING IN THE HUMANS' STOMACHS...AND *DESTROY* THEM!

IXTL TOOK HIMSELF TO TASK FOR NOT SLAUGHTERING *MORE* OF THEIR NUMBERS! THE BLINDING DRIVE TO *REPRODUCE* HAD NUMBED HIS SENSE OF LOGIC! INSTANTLY, THE GLORIAN BEGAN TO SEEK OUT ANOTHER *HATCHING* SPOT IN THE BOWELS OF THE VESSEL...AS A *MAD STRATEGY* DANCED IN HIS BRAIN!

HE *RETREATED* WITH A SENSE OF DISASTER! HE HAD LOST THE VITAL *INITIATIVE*!

*SPEED* IMPLIED SUCCESS! HE MUST QUICKLY *CAPTURE* MORE GUULS, THEN *SLAY* EVERY REMAINING FLESHSKIN BEFORE THEY COULD REACT IN UNISON *AGAINST* HIM!

AS HE SEARCHED THE BLEAK CONFINES OF A MAINTENANCE SHAFT FOR A SUITABLE REPLICATION ZONE...

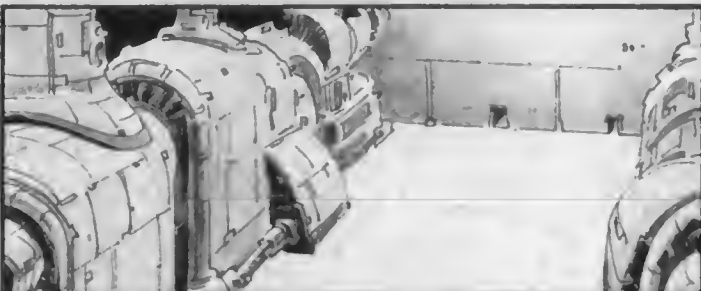


...HIS SENSITIVE EXTREMITIES GREW AWARE OF A SUBTLE CHANGE IN THE SYMPATHY OF VIBRATIONS THAT THROBBED CONSTANTLY THROUGH THE SPACE BEAGLE!



HE PAUSED AND STRAIGHTENED, HEAD TILTED SLIGHTLY IN BEMUSED PUZZLEMENT! SUDDENLY, HE REALIZED WHAT IT WAS!

THE DRIVE ENGINES WERE SILENT!



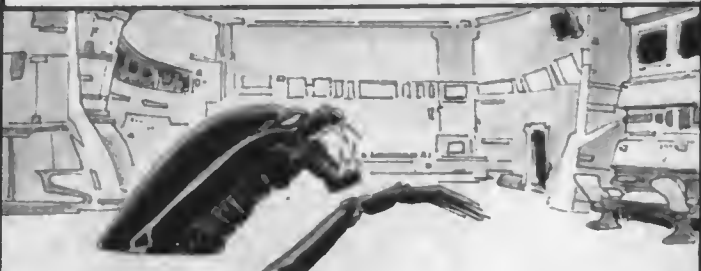
BUT THE DYNAMOS, THE VAST STAR-DRIVE GENERATORS THAT POWERED THOSE SAME AWESOME ENGINES, WERE NOT! THEIR MUTED, KEENING WHINE BEGAN TO SLOWLY BUT STEADILY CLIMB IN RISING PITCH! AN INDEFINABLE FEELING OF DREAD SEIZED IXTL!

WHILE HE STOOD THERE, TREMBLING...THE SHIP SHUDDERED A SCORE OF TIMES, AND AS MANY LIFEBOATS WERE LAUNCHED!



THE HUMANS HAD LEFT THEIR PRECIOUS CRAFT... ABANDONING IT TO HIM, AND HIM TO IT!

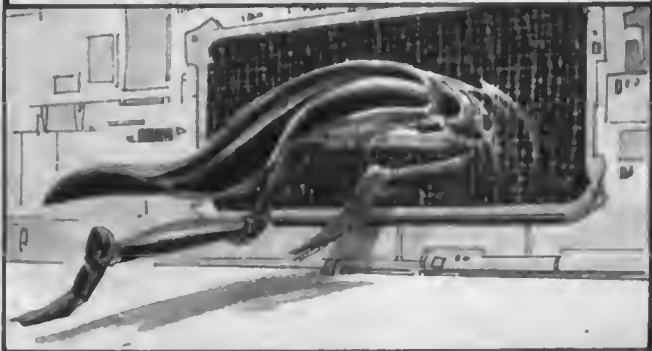
AT ONCE, HE SURMISED THEIR LETHAL INTENTIONS! THE EIGHT-LIMBED HORROR WHIRLED AND, MOVING LIKE A BLUR, PLUNGED INTO THE NEAREST WALL...KNOWING THAT HIS ONLY HOPE LAY IN THE MIDNIGHT EMPTINESS OF SPACE!



DOWN DESERTED CORRIDORS, SLAVERING HATE, WENT THE SCARLET MONSTER FROM ANCIENT GLORI! THE GREAT SHIP, WHICH HAD PROMISED SO MUCH, WAS NOW HEMMING HIM IN, PREGNANT WITH DEATH!



WITH OBVIOUS RELIEF; IXTL SPOTTED AN AIRLOCK! HE ADJUSTED HIS SWIRLING ELECTRON STRUCTURE AS HE DOVE FOR THE HATCH...





...AND WAS SUDDENLY  
OUT IN SPACE! HE  
ANTICIPATED THE MEN  
WOULD BE WATCHING,  
WAITING FOR HIM TO  
APPEAR; SO HE  
POLARIZED A VIOLENT  
REPULSION BETWEEN  
HIMSELF AND THE  
STARCRAFT, FLASHING  
FAR AND AWAY!



BEHIND HIM, THE PORTHOLE LIGHTS WERE  
EXTINGUISHED BY A BLUE GLOW...A RAMPANT  
ATOMIC GLARE THAT GREW AND SPREAD,  
UNTIL IT ENVELOPED THE VESSEL INSIDE AND OUT!



THE BEAGLE, BRIEFLY, BURNED LIKE A  
MINIATURE SUN!

AS THE AZURE  
INFERNO SLOWLY  
FADED, THE  
IMPENETRABLE  
FORCE SHIELD  
AROUND THE  
BEAGLE SNAPPED  
AUTOMATICALLY  
ON, A HUNDRED  
TIMES STRONGER  
THAN THE SHIP'S  
OWN INTERNAL  
E-SCREENS!



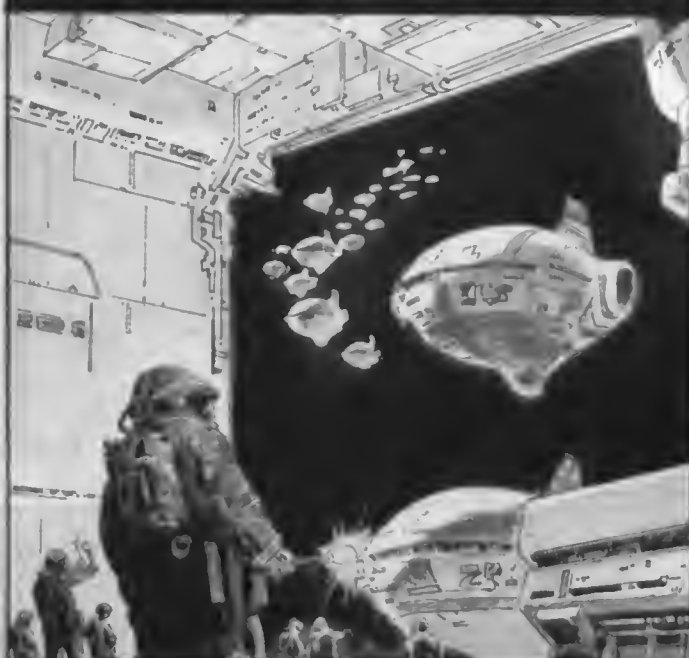
IXTL, EVER  
MINDFUL OF THE  
NEUTRON ARTILLERY,  
CAREFULLY DROVE  
HIMSELF NEARER,  
APPROACHING THE  
OUTER EDGE OF THE  
RIPPLING FIELD OF  
FLICKERING FORCE!



THEN HE SAW THEM, THE FIRST OF THE  
HOVERING LIFEBOATS WHICH HAD BEEN  
HUGGING CLOSELY TO THE SHIP'S HULL!



RAPIDLY, THE JETTISONED OFF-SPRING REENTERED THE  
MOTHER SHIP! THE HUMANS WERE SAFE WITHIN THEIR  
PROTECTIVE SCREEN, SAFE INSIDE THEIR SHIP, SAFE FROM  
HIM!



THE DOCKING BAY HATCHES LOCKED TIGHTLY SHUT,  
AND WITHOUT WARNING...



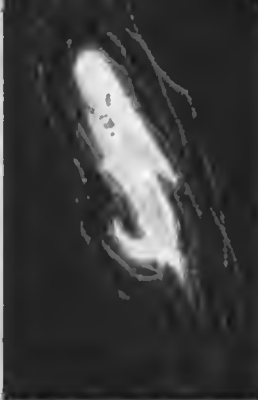
...THE SPACE BEAGLE **VANISHED!** ONE MOMENT, IT  
WAS **THERE!** THE NEXT, GONE...REDUCED TO  
**MEMORY!**



TIME DRAGGED A WEARY MARCH  
TOWARDS **ETERNITY** AS IXTL  
TUMBLED HELPLESSLY IN THE  
BOUNDLESS NOTHINGNESS!



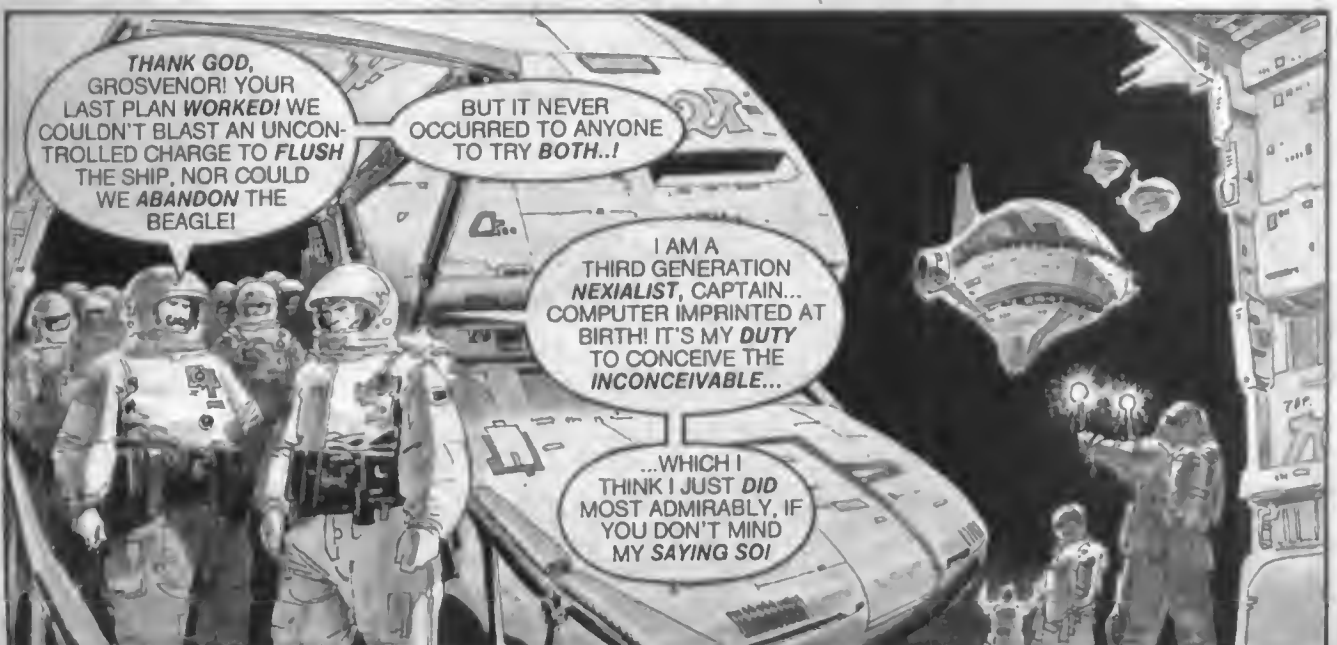
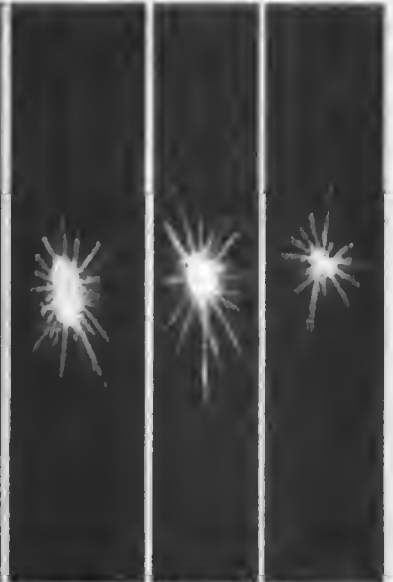
HIS **MISTAKES** HAD  
COST HIM THE  
**UNIVERSE**, A  
UNIVERSE THAT  
COULD HAVE BEEN  
**HIS**, DOMINATED  
BY HIS KIND!



HE **DWINDED** AS  
HE SPUN, A  
SPECK  
**DEVoured** BY  
THE YAWNING,  
OBSIDIAN  
EXPANSE...



...THAT SO  
PERFECTLY  
**MIRRORED** HIS  
OWN BLEAK  
**DESPAIR!**



THANK GOD,  
GROSVENOR! YOUR  
LAST PLAN **WORKED!** WE  
COULDN'T BLAST AN UNCON-  
TROLLED CHARGE TO **FLUSH**  
THE SHIP, NOR COULD  
WE **ABANDON** THE  
BEAGLE!

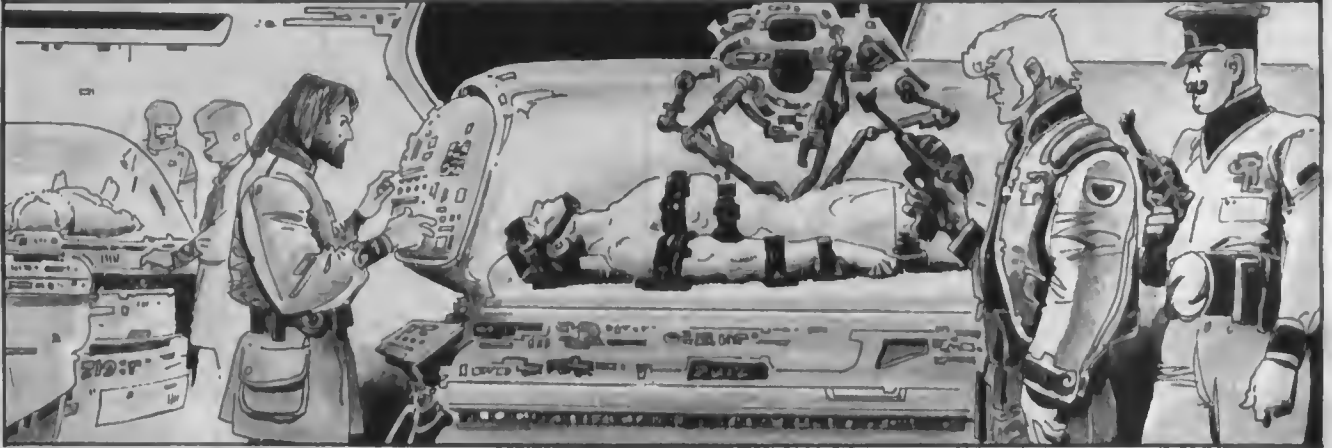
BUT IT NEVER  
OCCURRED TO ANYONE  
TO TRY **BOTH..!**

I AM A  
THIRD GENERATION  
**NEXIALIST**, CAPTAIN...  
COMPUTER IMPRINTED AT  
BIRTH! IT'S MY **DUTY**  
TO CONCEIVE THE  
**INCONCEIVABLE...**

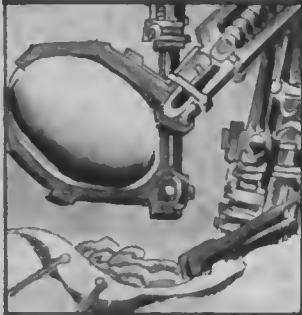
...WHICH I  
THINK I JUST **DID**  
MOST ADMIRABLY, IF  
YOU DON'T MIND  
MY SAYING SO!



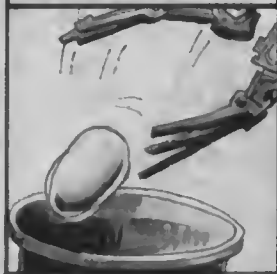
**EPILOG: THE ALIEN'S VICTIMS, IXTL'S GUULS, WERE OFF-LOADED FROM A LIFEBOAT AND RUSHED TO ROBOTIC SURGERY! GROSVENOR LOOKED ON WHILE DOCTOR EGGERT, MANIPULATING A LASER SCALPEL, MADE SEVERAL DEFT INCISIONS...**



...AND REMOVED THREE GELATINOUS EGGS, QUIVERING WITH LIVING DEATH, FROM THEIR GASTRIC WOMBS...



...PLACING THEM IN A VAT FORGED OF DENSIFIED RESISTANCE METAL, JUST AS THE SQUIRMING OVOIDS, BULGING WITH UNEARTHLY LIFE...



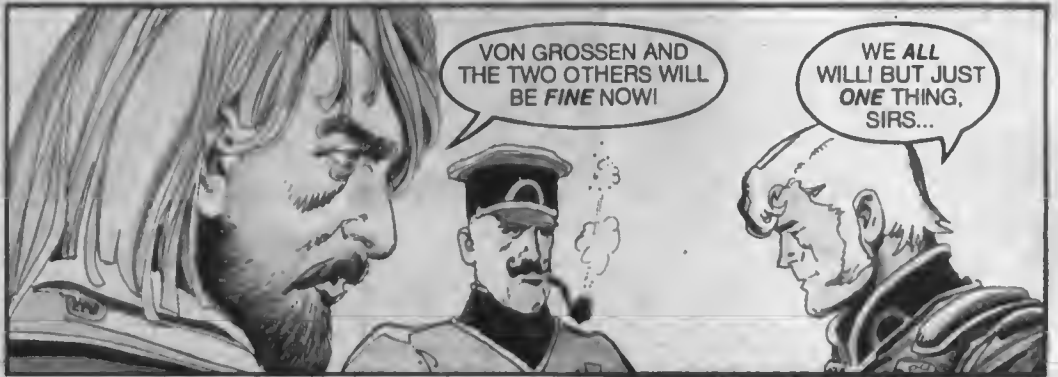
...HATCHED!



WITH SUDDEN SWIFTNES, THE CREATURES REARED UP AND ATTEMPTED TO LEAP CLEAR OF THE IMPREGNABLE CONTAINER!



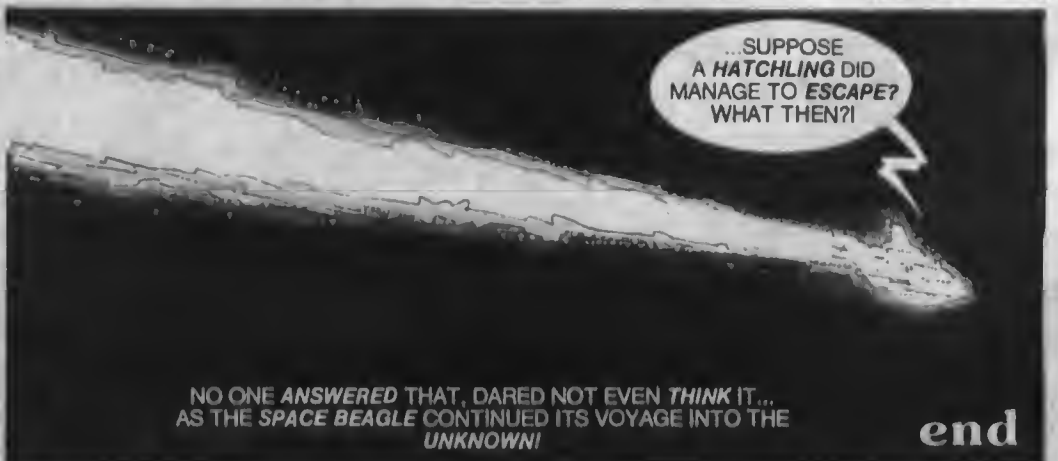
BUT THE CONCENTRATED FIRE OF TWO VIBROGUNS DISSOLVED THE DEVILISH INFANTS!



VON GROSSEN AND THE TWO OTHERS WILL BE FINE NOW!

WE ALL WILL! BUT JUST ONE THING, SIRS...

...SUPPOSE A HATCHLING DID MANAGE TO ESCAPE? WHAT THEN?

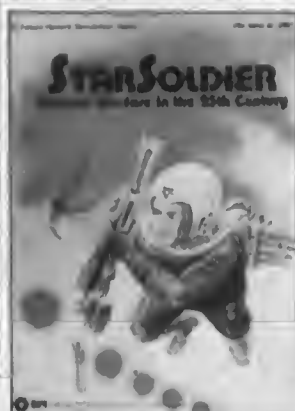


NO ONE ANSWERED THAT, DARED NOT EVEN THINK IT... AS THE SPACE BEAGLE CONTINUED ITS VOYAGE INTO THE UNKNOWN!

end

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## ACTION ATTACK WARRIORS



## ZOARK ACTION ATTACK WARRIOR

Far out in the bleak reaches of the Lesser Melanogenic Clouds the robot world of Thaat Retrak 9 was devastated by a quark rust bomb attack from the barbarian world of Tobor in the Andromeda Galaxy. Thaatans mining their systema asteroid belt survived the holocaust. Struck to the very depths of his bio-chemical heart, six inch Zoark has sworn to exact vengeance from all Andromadana. Zoark's atal, blue and black colors, jointed arm and deadly proton propeller cannon are ready to kill. Can he save the milky way? #26093—\$2.50

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**"CLENs" MAKE-UP REMOVER:** The perfect co-star to our fabulous make-up kit! "Clen's" removes all make-up and adhesives from the skin and hair. "Clen's" is made of entirely natural ingredients and was specially created by a Hollywood make-up artist and used by major studios for over thirty years! Unless you're planning to be a gruesome monster for the rest of your life, you'll want "Clen's" to safely and gently remove all make-up without irritation! #26275—\$2.50

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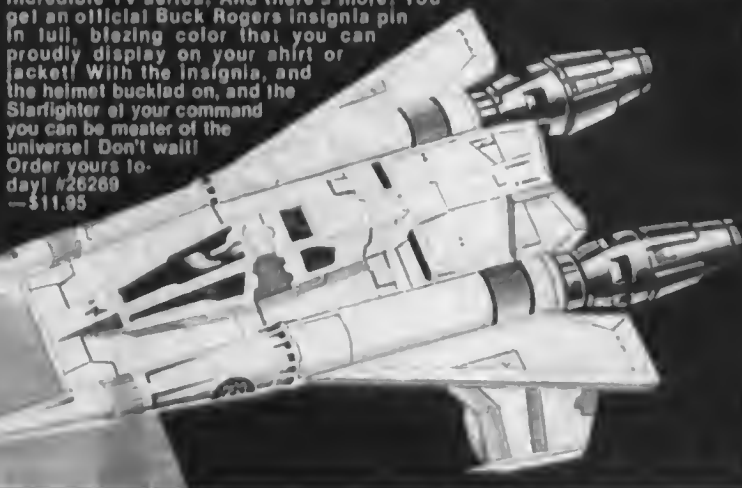
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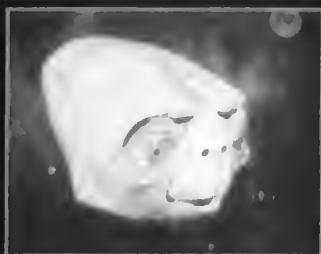
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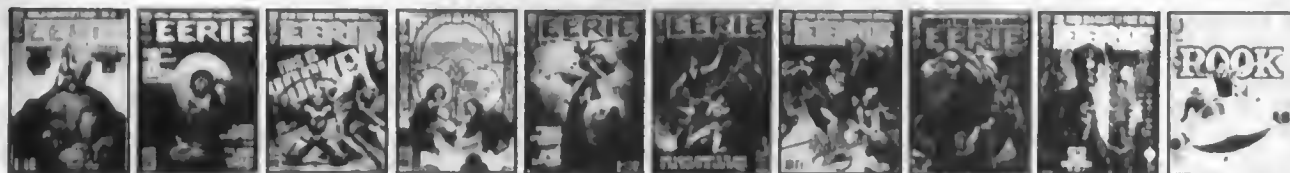
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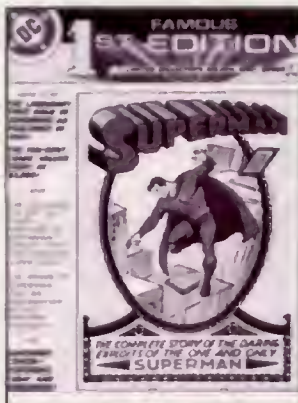
UP, UP and  
AWAY with SOME  
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FAVORITE THINGS!

1980

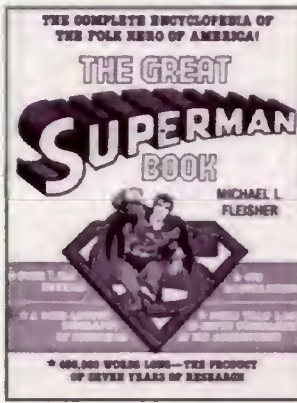
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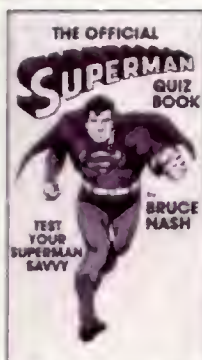
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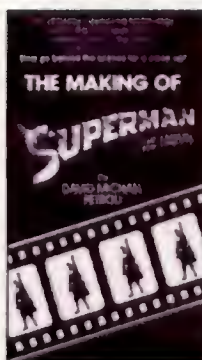
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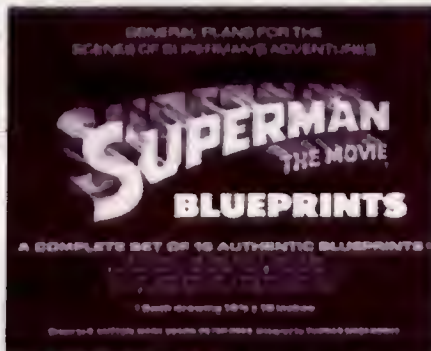
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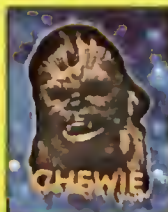
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